



TRIBUNE
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The Newsletter of SAI Model United Nations 2025





The Wisdom's Whistle

"The future, we've found, often listens more closely to the articulate than the earnest; and in that subtle difference lies the purpose of SAIMUN, where our youth embody idealism with 360-degree learning."

Late Dr. Bijaya Kumar Sahoo

The legacy continues at SAI International

In the Words of the Visionary- Late Dr. Bijaya Kumar Sahoo, Founder-Chairman SAI International Education Group

within the values of SAI International. Purpose and values delineate what is essential to us, offering a clear direction. Purpose ignites passion, serving as the driving force behind achievement and ultimately, fostering success.

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"Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam - One World, One Family"

Late Dr. Bijaya Kumar Sahoo held a global vision centered around nurturing responsible global citizens of the future, individuals who identify with emerging cross-border communities and whose admirable actions contribute to creating a better world. The values ingrained within the system play a pivotal role in providing purpose and guidance to tomorrow's leaders. Central to this ethos is living with a sense of purpose, a fundamental aspect deeply ingrained

Dr. Sahoo recognized that the SAI Model United Nations would empower students to enhance their knowledge through participation in high-level debates, engaging in extensive and inclusive research, learning the art of teamwork in drafting resolutions, and acquiring skills in conflict resolution, negotiation, and consensus-building. These experiences not only shape the character of children but also contribute to building a better world, marked by progress in social, economic, political, and cultural domains.



SHARED WISDOM



BHUTAN

MADAGASCAR

SUDAN

RWANDA

SRILANKA

KENYA

TANZANIA

NIGERIA

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

ESWATINI

LESOTHO



Dr. Silpi Sahoo

Chairperson
SAI International Education Group

*"Our ability to reach unity in diversity will be the beauty
and the test of our civilization."*

- Mahatma Gandhi

It is a pleasure to welcome all delegates to SAI International Model United Nations 2025, a dynamic platform where young minds unite to explore diplomacy, global leadership, and meaningful dialogue.

SAIMUN International fosters a culture of critical thinking, collaboration, and solution-oriented debate, empowering students to address global challenges with insight and conviction. This year's theme, "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam"—the world is one family—highlights the importance of embracing diversity, strengthening international cooperation, and shaping a more inclusive world.

Diplomacy is the cornerstone of global progress, and through this conference, delegates will refine their ability to negotiate, mediate, and lead with wisdom. The impact of these discussions extends far beyond committee rooms, inspiring meaningful change in the global arena.

As future leaders, you hold the power to drive transformation through dialogue, understanding, and collaboration. By engaging in these discussions, you are not only enhancing your diplomatic acumen but also contributing to a legacy of responsible global citizenship. The perspectives you share, the resolutions you craft, and the alliances you build will play a vital role in shaping a more just and sustainable future.

I encourage each participant to seize this opportunity with passion, curiosity, and a commitment to making a difference. Let us come together to foster understanding, drive action, and build a future shaped by unity and purpose.

Happy MUNning !

Dr. Silpi Sahoo

Chairperson, SAI International



Shri Nilakantha Panigrahi

Director Academics & Sr. Principal
SAI International Education Group

*“In the pursuit of knowledge, chance plays no role;
it requires fervor and diligence.”*

- Abigail Adams

As the SAI Model United Nations Conference (SAIMUN) embarks on its remarkable 13th edition, we reflect on the legacy of twelve successful years—each marked by dedication, excellence, and an unwavering commitment to fostering global discourse.

SAIMUN has established itself as a premier MUN conference in Eastern India, drawing delegates from across the country and beyond. In 2021 alone, we proudly hosted over 1000 delegates from 20 countries, spanning continents—an incredible testament to our international reach and impact.

The 13th edition of SAIMUN, set for July 25 and 26, 2025, promises to be an intellectually stimulating and transformative virtual experience. Through engaging debates, rigorous discussions, and the exchange of innovative solutions, delegates will be inspired to think critically, act decisively, and emerge as catalysts for positive global change.

We eagerly look forward to your participation in this enriching journey.

Happy MUNning !

Shri Nilakantha Panigrahi

Director Academics & Senior Principal, SAI International



Shri Amitabh Agnihotri

Associate Director & Headmaster
SAI International Residential School

“The future belongs to those who prepare for it today.”

- Malcolm X

SAIMUN 2025, the flagship event of SAI International, will be held on July 25 & 26, 2025, bringing together young minds to engage in thought-provoking discussions on global issues. This platform nurtures diplomacy, leadership, and collaboration—essential qualities for shaping a better world.

By simulating the workings of the United Nations, SAIMUN empowers students to think critically, negotiate effectively, and craft meaningful resolutions. It serves as a transformative experience, fostering global awareness and preparing delegates for the challenges of tomorrow.

I eagerly look forward to welcoming you all to SAIMUN 2025! Happy MUNning!

Happy MUNning !

Shri Amitabh Agnihotri

Associate Director & Headmaster,
SAI International Residential School

THE LEADER'S LEDGER



From the Desk of the Secretary General

Shagun Samantarai



Shagun Samantarai is a Class 12 Science student at SAI International School, Bhubaneswar. Academically, she always strived for excellence, having secured the State Topper position in the Class 10 CBSE Board Exams. She has been honoured to serve as the Head Girl of the school. She is passionate for debates, MUNs and diplomacy. Her will to win allows her to excel in all extracurricular activities catering to an all round development.

Dear Delegates, Advisors and Esteemed guests

It is with immense happiness and enthusiasm that I welcome you all to the 13th edition of Sai Model United Nations (SAIMUN). As the Secretary General of SAIMUN 2025, I am filled with pride & honour to be a part of this prestigious conference.

SAIMUN is not just a yearly meetup. It is a community of about 23 participating countries and numerous schools coming together to work towards a common goal-building world class citizens. It is a platform to engage in meaningful debate & discussion on matters of global importance. It is a forum for young minds to learn the art of diplomacy and finesse. Thought provoking and meticulously examined subject which is going to push the delegates

to think beyond the box. The delegates will be compelled to question the existing norms and will develop the urge to build a better world. However, that is not all that SAIMUN provides. It allows students from diverse backgrounds to socialize, build friendships and learn from each other. The wonderful team of SAIMUN 2025 has worked relentlessly to create an unforgettable experience complete with beautiful cultural performances to intellectually stimulating sessions. We have made sure to furnish an event inclusive and inspiring to all.

Over the course of next two days, I would encourage the delegates to remember the motto that drives all Saioneers, "BE THE BEST OR DIFFERENT FROM THE REST". Do not be afraid of voicing your opinions, even if they are unconventional. Remember to both criticize and put your stance loud and clear but also be open to suggestions from your chairs & peers.

As we step into this new journey underlined with purpose and learning, let us hold onto the ideal of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam", "One World One Family" and treat all our peers with respect. Let us commit to be peaceful and mindful throughout the session.

Thank You for being a part of SAIMUN 2025. I truly hope that these days become as memorable to you as they are to me. Be passionate, Be creative, Be bold and Be YOU.

With regards,
Shagun Samantarai
Secretary-General
SAI International
Model United Nations 2025

From the Desk of the
International Press Chief

Tarun Tapan Bhuyan



Tarun Tapan Bhuyan is a MUNer with over 56 MUN conferences under his belt. He has attended MUNs in various capacities, as a delegate, executive board member and member of the Secretariat. He is the Founder-Chairman and Secretary-General of India International Model United Nations, which is affiliated with UNHCR, and is certified in Global Diplomacy from the University of London, Moral Foundations of Politics from Yale University and is currently pursuing a course on Women's Health at Stanford University. He advocates for climate action strongly.

**Dear Eminent Guests, Faculty Advisors,
 Executive Board Members & Delegates,**

It's with great excitement and honor that I welcome you to the SAI International Model United Nations (SAIMUN) 2025. As the International Press Chief of the SAIMUN 2025, it is my privilege to introduce you to a conference that promises to be an intellectually stimulating and profoundly impactful experience. At SAIMUN, we gather to explore and address some of the most pressing global issues of our time. This year's theme, "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" underscores our belief in the power of young leaders to drive meaningful change and create a more sustainable and equitable world.

Over the next few days, you will engage in thought-provoking debates, forge new friendships, and collaborate on innovative solutions to complex problems. The role of the press, and specifically the SAIMUN Tribune, is to capture these moments,

document your insights, and amplify your voices to a broader audience. As delegates, your words and actions have the power to inspire and inform, both within the conference and beyond. The SAIMUN Tribune is dedicated to providing comprehensive coverage of the conference, offering a platform for diverse perspectives and fostering a deeper understanding of the issues at hand. Our team of reporters and editors is committed to delivering accurate, insightful, and engaging content that reflects the dynamism and diversity of our delegates.

I encourage each of you to engage fully with the opportunities that SAIMUN 2024 presents. Share your ideas, challenge your assumptions, and learn from one another. Whether you are a seasoned delegate or participating for the first time, your contributions are invaluable to the success of this conference.

Behind the scenes, a dedicated team has

worked tirelessly to ensure that every aspect of SAIMUN 2024 runs smoothly. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the organizers, volunteers, and advisors who have made this event possible. Their hard work and dedication are what make SAIMUN a hallmark of excellence in the Model United Nations community.

As we embark on this journey together, let us embrace the spirit of collaboration, respect, and open-mindedness. Together, we can create a vibrant and inclusive space where ideas flourish and positive change begins. Thank you for being a part of SAIMUN 2024. I look forward to witnessing the passion, creativity, and dedication that each of you brings to this conference.

Yours in journalistic liberty,

Tarun Tapan Bhuyan

International Press Chief,
 SAI Model United Nations 2025

From the Desk of the
Editor-in-Chief

Sara Anwita



Sara Anwita is a Class XII Humanities student and the Editor-in-Chief of SAIMUN 2025, known for her sharp editorial vision and commitment to upholding the free press. A dedicated student leader, she has served on the Student Council and led UNWIND 2024 as Director of Logistics. As Editor-in-Chief of Vistarika, the school's world issues magazine, and a contributor to Kloud9, founded by Sahitya Akademi Awardee Ruskin Bond, Sara brings a powerful voice to student journalism. Anwita is also a finalist at the Founder's Debate and runner-up at the Odisha Literary Festival, awarded by Padma Bhushan Prabhu Chawla.

“ There is no greater agony than bearing an untold story inside you. ”

- Maya Angelou

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to the International Press Corps of SAI Model United Nations 2025.

This committee is unlike any other. Here, you will not represent nations—you will represent truth. You will not draft clauses—you will craft narratives.

The International Press Corps is the heartbeat of any MUN, pumping meaning into motions, translating policy into purpose, and capturing fleeting moments of diplomacy before they disappear into silence.

This year, as SAIMUN embraces the theme of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam — “One World, One Family” — the International Press Corps plays a unique and meaningful role.

Beyond simply reporting the proceedings, you have the opportunity to reflect the deeper threads of unity, dialogue, and shared humanity woven through every debate.

In the headlines you write, the photographs you capture, and the cartoons you create, you might find yourself asking: “What truth am I helping to carry forward?” While delegates work to shape resolutions that may inspire change, it is often your words that help the world remember how that change first took root. You are part of a legacy now.

The Tribune—our official magazine—does not just document this conference. It defines it. It is our annual time capsule, a canvas where diplomacy meets creativity. Your contributions—be they witty reports, op-

eds, interviews, satire, or visual art—are not merely content. They are conviction. They are courage.

To be in the International Press is to bear witness, to question power, and to immortalise this conference with the ink of integrity.

Reach out. Ask boldly. Write bravely. This is your stage as much as anyone else's.

With pride, with purpose, and with the deepest excitement for what you'll create,

Regards,

Sara Anwita

Editor-in-Chief,

SAI Model United Nations 2025

From the Desk of the Photographer in Chief

Ayush Mohanty



Ayush Mohanty is a dynamic and enthusiastic student currently in the 11th grade at SAI International School. With a keen interest in photography, serves as the Photographer in Chief for the 12th edition of SAIMUN. He possesses a deep understanding of photography techniques and a creative approach towards capturing moments. In addition to his passion for photography, Ayush is an active member of the student council, where he contributes ideas and initiatives to enhance the school community. He is also the captain of the school's football team, demonstrating leadership skills both on and off the field. With a diverse set of interests and a commitment to excellence, He embodies the spirit of creativity, leadership, and teamwork within the school environment.

Greetings to the agents of the written word!

It is with great excitement and warmth that I welcome you to the International Press Corps at the 13th edition of SAI Model United Nations.

The International Press is often described as the eyes and ears of any Model UN conference—and rightly so. In my journey across seven MUNS as an IP correspondent and photojournalist, I've come to deeply appreciate the role we play in observing, documenting, and interpreting the unfolding of diplomacy. Every article we write, every photograph we take, is a snapshot of dialogue, dissent, and diplomacy in action.

At SAIMUN 2025, you will have the opportunity to witness diverse global

perspectives, capture historic committee moments, and amplify voices through your journalistic lens. Whether you are writing features, covering live debates, or telling stories through imagery, remember that your work has the power to shape how these events are remembered and understood.

As a recipient of a Notable Correspondent Award and former Secretary of SAITED 2024, I understand the value of dedication, discipline, and detail in every piece of journalistic work. I encourage you to challenge assumptions, be fearless in your pursuit of truth, and maintain the highest standards of objectivity and creativity.

This platform is not just about reporting—it is about storytelling, about capturing nuance, and about giving a voice to the unspoken moments. You are not only

documenting history, but also shaping it. Make your coverage insightful, make your observations thoughtful, and above all, let your passion be evident in every piece you submit.

I'm genuinely excited to see how each of you will bring your unique flair to the Press Corps. Use this space to grow, collaborate, and most importantly, enjoy the process of creating journalism that matters.

Wishing you an enriching, empowering, and inspiring experience at SAIMUN 2025.

Warm regards,
Ayush Mohanty

Photographer in Chief,
SAI Model United Nations 2025

The Team



CULTURAL CADENCE



THE INAUGURAL SYMPHONY



The 25th of July dawned upon SAI International not as a mere morning, but as a prologue to diplomacy - a beginning quietly profound, pregnant with promise. The inaugural ceremony of SAIMUN 2025 commenced with the arrival of the Chief Guest, Shri Kanak Vardhan Singh Deo, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, Government of Odisha, whose presence was received with warmth, honour, and a spirit of reverence by the Chairperson, Dr. Silpi Sahoo, and the Principals of the institution. The symbolic offering of floral bouquets by the Cultural Secretaries was more than a gesture of welcome; it was a ritualistic fusion of tradition and youth, marking the first ceremonial stone laid on the path of hospitality and harmony.

From this auspicious welcome, the dignitaries moved in solemn procession toward the Galaxy of Stars, a sacred landmark nestled within the heart of the campus. This space, serene and contemplative, stands not just as a physical tribute to vision but as a spiritual homage to the ideals of innovation, excellence, and internationalism cherished by our late Founder, Dr. Bijay Kumar Sahoo. Bathed in soft morning light and quiet reflection, the moment served as a poignant reminder of the higher aspirations SAIMUN strives to fulfill - of young minds called not just to speak, but to build.

The gathering then proceeded toward the Indraprastha Auditorium, where the inaugural assembly took form. As the National Anthem reverberated through the

hall resonant, solemn, and proud, it united all present in a collective silence that spoke more deeply than words. The weight of shared belonging settled gently over the audience, reaffirming that the strength of any nation is built not only on heritage, but on its youth.

Once the guests were gracefully seated off the dais, the stage was handed over to the ever-resplendent SAI Choir, who filled the auditorium with a performance rooted in philosophy and elevated by artistry. Their rendition of "*Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam - the world is one family*" was not simply sung, it was felt. Each note carried with it the founding ethos of SAIMUN: that diplomacy must begin in the heart before it is spoken in the forum; that difference must be heard before it can be healed.

What followed was the ceremonial lighting of the lamp of wisdom, a golden ritual that lit not only the stage, but the very spirit of the forum. Its glow stood for more than tradition: it symbolized the enlightenment of the intellect, the unity of many voices, and the ignition of inquiry and conversation that would soon fill every committee room.

Distinguished guests were then formally invited to the dais, and greeted with tokens of welcome by the SAIONEERS—yet another expression of the institution's nurturing ethos, where grace and gratitude are inseparable from scholarship and ambition.

The welcome address delivered by Secretary-General Shagun Samantarai was not merely introductory, it was an eloquent

overture to what lay ahead. With clarity and calm command, she extended her embrace to the multitude of student delegates, the esteemed Executive Board Members, and the International Press Corps. Her address stitched together vision, purpose, and resolve, and placed before the forum the spirit with which every discussion was to be undertaken: not in mimicry of politics, but in pursuit of principled dialogue.

This address was followed by a compelling speech by Dr. Silpi Sahoo, Chairperson of the SAI International Education Group, whose words cast a steady light on the transformative mission of SAIMUN. She spoke not merely of an event, but of an evolving movement—one that cultivates empathy alongside excellence, and diplomacy alongside debate. In a moment that seamlessly connected inspiration to action, she invited to the podium the Chief Guest, Shri Kanak Vardhan Singh Deo, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, Government of Odisha, whose dignified presence lent the ceremony both gravitas and vision.

The Chief Guest's keynote address became the moral and intellectual axis around which the morning revolved. He urged delegates to dream with discipline, and lead with empathy, calling upon them to engage not only in resolution-making but in solution-seeking.

With seasoned clarity and impassioned conviction, he delivered not a speech, but a call to action. He spoke not only as a

statesman, but as a witness to the tides of history and a believer in the power of the present. His admiration for SAIMUN was unreserved; he praised it for fostering an ecosystem of diplomacy that does not merely simulate the world, but prepares to change it.

With this profound articulation of purpose, the Chief Guest officially declared SAIMUN 2025 open. The words did not simply mark a beginning—they carved it into memory. The declaration lingered in the air like a sacred promise. It was met not merely with applause, but with a collective sense of readiness as if every heart in the auditorium had simultaneously stepped into the forum.

A Felicitation Ceremony followed, honouring the institution's brightest minds—academic achievers in Global Entrepreneurship and Board Exams celebrating not just intellectual merit but the courage to aspire and the perseverance to excel. As a final tribute, a memento was presented to the Chief Guest by Chairperson Dr. Silpi Sahoo, an elegant gesture of gratitude and lasting remembrance.

The formal proceedings concluded with a Vote of Thanks by Shri Nilakantha Panigrahi, Director Academics & Senior Principal, whose words warm, articulate, and graceful acknowledged every individual whose effort made the day a success, and honoured every presence that bore witness to its unfolding.

As the National Anthem once again filled the hall, it did so not as a ritual alone, but as a reflection of unity in diversity, of pride woven into promise. A forum had been formed. A flame had been lit. And so, with hearts alight and minds alert, SAIMUN 2025 had officially begun. ■



THE FINAL CRESCENDO: VALEDICTION OF SAIMUN 2025

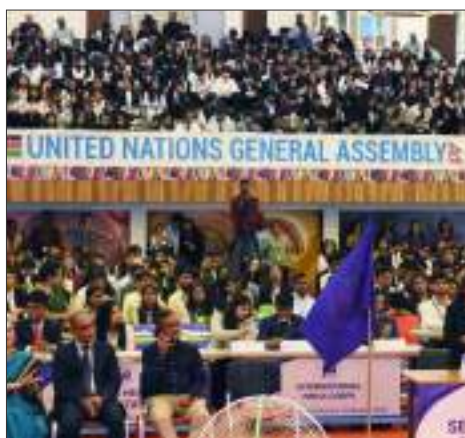
The Valedictory Ceremony of SAIMUN 2025 stood not as an end, but as an eloquent culmination, an evening that wove together the threads of spirited dialogue, intellectual exchange, and youthful conviction into a tapestry of dignity and grace. The arrival of the Chief Guest, Smt. Surama Padhy, Hon'ble Speaker of the State Legislative Assembly, Government of Odisha, lent the occasion an unmistakable air of distinguished diplomacy. With her presence, the atmosphere shifted from anticipation to reverence as if the forum itself paused to take a breath before closing its pages.

The event commenced with a ceremonial bouquet presentation by the SAIONEERS, a tradition symbolic of gratitude, humility, and respect. This was immediately followed by a cultural performance that transformed the stage into a canvas of movement and meaning. With grace and vibrancy, it brought tradition and expression to life, offering a story in motion, a tribute to heritage that did not require language, only rhythm, gesture, and shared silence. It spoke in the way that only art can: unspoken, yet deeply understood.

But it was the hauntingly intimate presentation of plants that truly stilled the audience. What unfolded was not merely a topic, it was a pulse, a pang, a shared ache. The presenters brought to the fore not just facts, but feelings; not just evidence, but empathy. The entire auditorium listened not with their ears, but with their hearts. In that moment, the boundaries between speaker and spectator dissolved, and what remained was the quiet realization that diplomacy, too, must learn to listen to what is unsaid.

The Head Boy's Welcome Address followed a warm, eloquent tribute that grounded the ceremony in gratitude and reflection. With poise and sincerity, He offered not just words, but a tether, a way for all present to look back and marvel at the journey that had been.

Secretary-General Shagun Samantara then returned to the dais, this time not to launch, but to conclude. Her voice, now familiar yet newly solemn, reintroduced the multitude of voices and perspectives that had coloured the past two days. Through her words, the forum was not closed, but commemorated. What began with ambition now ended with admiration for the debates that tested minds, the



resolutions that forged consensus, and the silences that taught diplomacy.

Then came the voice that has always anchored SAIMUN's vision, Dr. Silpi Sahoo, Chairperson of SAI International Education Group. Her words never merely occupy time; they transform it. Her address shimmered with memory, meaning, and motion part mirror, part map, offering a reflection of what SAIMUN had become and a roadmap for what it must continue to be. With characteristic grace, she introduced the Chief Guest, a handoff not just of the microphone, but of the moment from one torchbearer to another.

And then, the hall fell into a deeper stillness as Srimati Surama Padhy, began her keynote address. Her speech was no ordinary conclusion, it was an invocation to the future diplomats seated before him. She did not speak to them as students, but as custodians of global solutions, as thinkers and leaders poised to inherit a fractured world and tasked with making it whole. Her words were clear, luminous, and quietly urgent, reminding all that hope, when tempered with action, becomes the most radical form of realism. She urged delegates not to wait for permission to lead, but to claim the space they had already earned, to lead not with dominance, but with dignity.

Perhaps the most symbolic moment of the evening came with the release of the 'SAIMUN Tribune', a journal crafted not just by hands, but by hearts. Penned, sketched, and captured by the dedicated members of the International Press Corps, the Tribune was not just a record of events; it was a testament to witnessing, to remembering, to telling the truth of what had transpired. It stood as a quiet monument to thought, creativity, and observation, a chronicle that would long

outlast the applause it received.

Following this, the felicitation of the Executive Board Members and school delegations took place. But these were not mere awards; they were affirmations, recognitions of the relentless hours, the behind-the-scenes coordination, the quiet compromises, the confident speeches, the growth that came not just in committee sessions, but in between them. It was not a finale, but a moment of crystallization - of merit meeting memory.

As a final gesture of gratitude, a memento was presented to the Chief Guest—an emblem of appreciation that, though small in form, carried the full weight of respect and honour. In that quiet exchange, the circle of gratitude completed itself, seamless and sincere.

The Vote of Thanks, delivered by Shri Amitabh Agnihotri, brought the ceremony to its final fold. His words were measured, heartfelt, and deeply grateful and spoke not only on behalf of the School, but on behalf of every delegate, every guest, every teacher, every volunteer who had, in their own way, carried the weight of this summit forward.

And then, as Srimati Surama Padhy, officially declared SAIMUN 2025 closed, the air inside the auditorium stilled—no longer heavy with anticipation, but with the quiet awe of having witnessed something meaningful. It was not an ending, but a reverent pause before the next beginning.

Finally, the "Song of Hope" rose—not as a farewell, but as a gentle, melodic vow. Its notes, soft and soaring, filled the space one last time. And as its final chord faded, so too did SAIMUN 2025—not into silence, but into echo. An echo that will travel through memory, through time, through every delegate who now walks away a little more aware, a little more empowered, and infinitely more connected.



EDITORIAL ENCLAVE



Dharma, Dialogue, Diplomacy — Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam: Dissecting Indian Foreign Policy Under The Looking Glass

In a world of dwindling peace, diminishing prosperity and dominating supremacy, where authority is wielded not in the word but in the weapon, when will one awaken the chant and the anthem, long cherished and seldom forgotten — Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam.

SAIMUN's International Press Chief, Tarun Tapan Bhuyan, unveils the editorial for the 13th SAIMUN on the persevering theme of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam

“Every place is my home town; Everyone my kith and kin.”

~ Kaniyan Pungundranar, Sangam Poet, 100 BCE.

**~‘ayam nijah paroveti ganana laghuchetasam
udaracharitanam tu vasudhaiva kutumbhakam’~**

(He who hath considered one man to be his own, and the next a stranger; is deemed narrow in his thoughts. But one whose heart exudes magnanimity, this world is but one family.)

The contemporary Indian conscience has become disillusioned with this, their living truth. The question that befalls them and the fellow countrymen of their time is a paradox veiled beneath a hidden imposition, which appears seemingly simple: *Disillusionment versus Idealism.*

But this argument's enormity lies not in its posing, but in its nuance. When does he, a resident of this new global order, surrender his ideals to embrace the cosmopolitanism that envelops his nation, only to become disillusioned with his own code? And for how long does he clutch the pearls of his dear-hearted ideals, in that he becomes disillusioned with the nation's pace itself?

Perhaps the answer must be sublimated into three constituents: Where does the self end and society begin? Where does value begin to lose its velocity? Can tradition become a conduit of transformation? These questions have bewildered literature since literary aeons past.

American poet and transcendentalist, Walt Whitman, in his poem, ‘*Song of Myself*,’ poignantly introspects, “*I am large, I contain multitudes.*” Author of ‘*The Caged Bird Sings*’ - Maya Angelou is quoted to have said, “*I come as one, I stand as ten thousand.*” The philosophy of societal convergence with the innate identity of the self has been a puissant metaphor in the ambit of literature, an instrument which borders not just on personal empowerment and the metaphysical, but borders spiritual rediscovery.

This ideal superficially appears to be an intellectual offspring with Western genealogy, but finds harbour in the deepest and most natural trench within the Indian template of life.

The *Samanya Upanishad* and the *Vaishnava Upanishad* describe Lord Vishnu, the Preserver in Hindu mythology, as the highest being, even above Lord Brahma, the Creator. Both groups of texts use reverential words of all Hindu gods, and assert them to be the same **Atman-Brahman**. *Atman* refers to the individual self, soul, or essence of a living being, while *Brahman* represents the ultimate reality of cosmic consciousness that needs to be pursued by the universal self. The *Upanishad* presents a syncretism of *Vaishnava*

and *Vedanta* ideas, and is notable for its teaching of “*Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam*”, or “*the world is one family*”.

Hence, the intersectional alignment of the self with a higher societal virtue, perhaps even a supernatural force, to create a sense of global purpose is not merely an assertion but a living truth in Indian reality. The centrality of the dharmic schools of thought in fostering a deep-rooted faith in a larger global collective and generating a sense of profound cross-border responsibility, not merely for political soundness, but for a higher ethos of peace, economic prosperity, and interconnected cooperation with the world's peoples. This idea finds immortality in the earliest texts of any civilised population: The *Rig Veda*.

(Mandala 10, Hymn 191)

**“Samaani va aakooti: samaana hridayaani va:
samaanam astu vo mano yathaa vah susahaasati”**

*(Let your aims be common, and your hearts beat for one accord;
Let your minds be united, so that you may live in communion.)*

Hence, it shan't come as an epiphany to one accustomed to the idealistic realism of our democratic experiment, that when the time came in the foundational Nehruvian years of foreign policy; the bedrock of India's external affairs positioning, our nation chose from within one of the most quintessentially unwavering principles of her intrinsic ideological archive: *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam*.

Today, the soul of the ‘One World, One Family’ slogan exists not merely within the bounds of unread United Nations working papers and moralistic belief systems, but in efforts, both tangible and inalienable in their character, to the vision of Indian values.

**“Sarve bhavantu sukhinaha,
Sarve bhavantu niramayah,
Sarve bhadrani pasyantu,
Maa khasciduhkha bhavate.”**

*(May all sentient beings be at peace,
May no one suffer from illness,*

May all see what is auspicious, may no one suffer.)

What was once conceived as a religious invocation to a deity in a time long since foregone has now metamorphosed into India's pragmatic action during **Vaccine Maitri** in 2021. "*May no one suffer from illness*" is not merely an objective for a utopian future; it is evidenced in our homeland's proactiveness in supplying over 200 million coronavirus vaccination doses to 98 nations during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Operation Dost offered aid to both Türkiye and Syria, where India responded with prompt compassion over the regimental calculus of political capital. Through doctrines like **SAGAR** and **Neighbourhood First**, it uplifts the region as kin, not competition. Whether championing climate justice via the **International Solar Alliance**, evacuating foreign nationals from war zones, or voicing the Global South in the **G20**, India's diplomacy embodies dharma, not dominance, but duty. It does not wield power to conquer, but to connect, guided by the enduring ideal that the world is, and must be, one family.

As we pivot from diplomatic undertaking for humanitarianism towards environmental responsibility, Indian foreign policy's cornerstone of '*Eco-Dharma*' seeks to establish a succinct yet transcendental position in the discourse of the multilateral climate justice dialogue, one that invariably reaffirms that India doesn't merely follow, it leads, it envisages and most integrally, it evokes a new vision for a greener Earth. This doesn't merely earmark its position since millennia as the "*Vishwa-Guru*" but revitalises a new generation of India to not just think differently but influence substantively.

Eco Dharma is the sacred confluence of the rivers of ecological foresight and spiritual duty — a worldview in which nature is not a resource to be exploited, but a divinity to be revered. It is fundamentally rooted in ancient Indian philosophy, unlike modern environmentalism, which often arises as a response to crisis. Eco Dharma begins with reverence, an internalised ethical duty where sustainability is not a policy but a prayer.

It demands more than just sponsorship and propagation; it demands cooperative globalism. It finds place in policies rooted in intergenerational justice, circular economy, and ecological humility within our global intelligensia. From solar energy leadership in the Global South to Ganga rejuvenation rooted in community participation, India's ecological diplomacy also echoes this ancient dharma. For in the dharmic imagination, healing the Earth is not a global agenda point, it is a sacred vow, one that was spelt and engraved indelibly within the *Bharatiya* outlook long before the advent of modern power structures and the western Renaissance.

Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, while immersed deep within India's storied philosophical intellectualism, is not caged within the confines of a blissfully ignorant cultural rhetoric - it manifests both tangibly and implicitly within the mural of India's push for multilateral diplomacy at many international forums today.

Tangibly, India has mainstreamed this ideal in its **G20 Presidency (2023)** with the theme "*One Earth, One Family, One Future*," centring the discourse around shared responsibility, sustainable growth, and equitable representation, especially for the Global South.

This was not just symbolic; India hosted the **Voice of the Global South Summit**, directly engaging over 125 developing nations to shape the G20 agenda, culminating in the call for the permanent membership for the African Union, an inter-continental organisation of 55 states at the Group of Twenty under its presidency did not just reaffirm India's inclusivity and action-oriented virtues but accommodated a continent long placed on the fringes of global dialogue in its epicentre. It sought to affirmatively give representation to the voices of 1.4 billion Africans at the world's premier stage of economic cooperation.

India's leadership in **founding the International Solar Alliance (ISA)** and the **Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI)** also showcases its intent to transcend national interest and forge cooperative climate futures for vulnerable nations.

Implicitly, India's **rhetorical and moral positioning** at the United Nations, BRICS, and Shanghai Cooperation Organisation forums channels *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam* as a soft power doctrine. India consistently advocates for **multilateral reform**, especially at the UN Security Council, not for its aggrandisement, but in the name of "*voice for the voiceless*" and the democratic expansion of global governance.

At fora like the **United Nations Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organisation**, **World Trade Organisation**, and **World Health Organisation**, India promotes knowledge-sharing, developmental pluralism, and the recognition of traditional medicine systems, subtly embedding the idea that no culture, country, or community is an island unto itself.

In essence, whether by platforming the marginalized, bridging global divides, or invoking shared civilizational wisdom in vocabulary and vocation, India demonstrates *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam* as a living, breathing diplomatic principle — one that does not merely shape India's voice on the world stage, but also seeks to harmonize the many voices around it.

Conclusively, what is conceived is not a superficial term for global sensationalism, but a doctrinal lifestyle pregnant with the meaningful gravitas of centuries of introspective self-exploration. India, *Bharat Varsha*, *Hindustan*, *Aryavarta*, as quoted by Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee:

"... is not a piece of land, but a living, conscious countryman. It is a land of salutation, of dedication, of offering."

In archaic Japanese, the name reserved for the empire beyond the horizons of Tibet was '*Tenjiku*', literally meaning heaven's land. Known for its austerity, peace, and the tranquil flourish of its commerce, literature, culture, religion and scientific notions from the Indian riverine mouth of enlightenment flowed into the economic and social arteries of Afro-Eurasia.

And so, as I stand as an Indian, both before a cyclone of global transformation and within the eye of a philosophical treasure's storm honed and engraved deep in my civilisational values — with its eddies of power and tides of interest — I return, with ever-deepening conviction, to the quietly resounding truth that has animated Indian thought for time spans never measured yet forever cherished: *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam*.

The world is not an arena; it is a home. Not a marketplace of competing hungers, but a collective hearth of shared breath, shared

vulnerability, shared destiny. As an Indian — and more so, as an inheritor of my civilisation's infinite philosophy - I find in this *mantra* not a slogan for export, but a mirror for introspection, a map for action.

In international assemblies where I watch my nation speak - whether at the United Nations or the Group of Twenty, the World Trade Organisation or the Conference of Parties - I no longer hear mere strategy. I hear the hauntingly beautiful echoes of the Upanishads dressed in the language of 21st-century diplomacy. I hear the quiet insistence that cooperation is not charity, but duty; that peace is not passive, but forged; that dignity must not be the privilege of the few, but the birthright of all.

To me, *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam* is not just India's gift to the world - it is India's promise to herself. A reminder that our spiritual diction, formed in the forests, fire-altars of old worlds and on the banks of the Indus, still possesses the eloquence to speak to a fractured modernity and evoke what the world's 'Golden Bird' has never forgotten: That, India doesn't just stand united in its resolve, but with solidarity in its action.

That a civilisation which once declared the Ganga sacred, welcomed *Athithis* (guests) as gods (*Devatas*), and saw the self mirrored in all beings, now dares to imagine a future where foreign policy is not foreign to empathy, not spiraled in the tempest of narrowminded shallowness, but alongside a universal family.

I do not pretend that we are perfect emissaries of this idea. As Swami Vivekananda said, "*The Indian is far from realising the potentiality of the ideals his ancestors left.*" But I do believe, absolutely, completely profoundly, unwaveringly, that when India leans into this truth, not just in verse and hymn but in verity and practical vivaciousness, she is at her most persuasive, most powerful, and most at peace.

For what greater act of leadership can a nation offer than to dream, and strive for a world where no child is a stranger, no country is peripheral, and no soul is alone? For what greater ideal can a populace propagate than one which harmonises the self and soul with the society and surreal? For what greater gift can a nation gift her allies than an olive branch of familial and spiritual concord? For what bigger question can a state answer than one of collaborative - possibly divine - collectiveness? For what is a greater sacrifice by the people of the world's most beautiful and brave democratic experiment than to forget where the self ends and where the society starts? But that, my dearest reader, are questions which I shall leave to your discretion.

"eko'ham bahu syām"

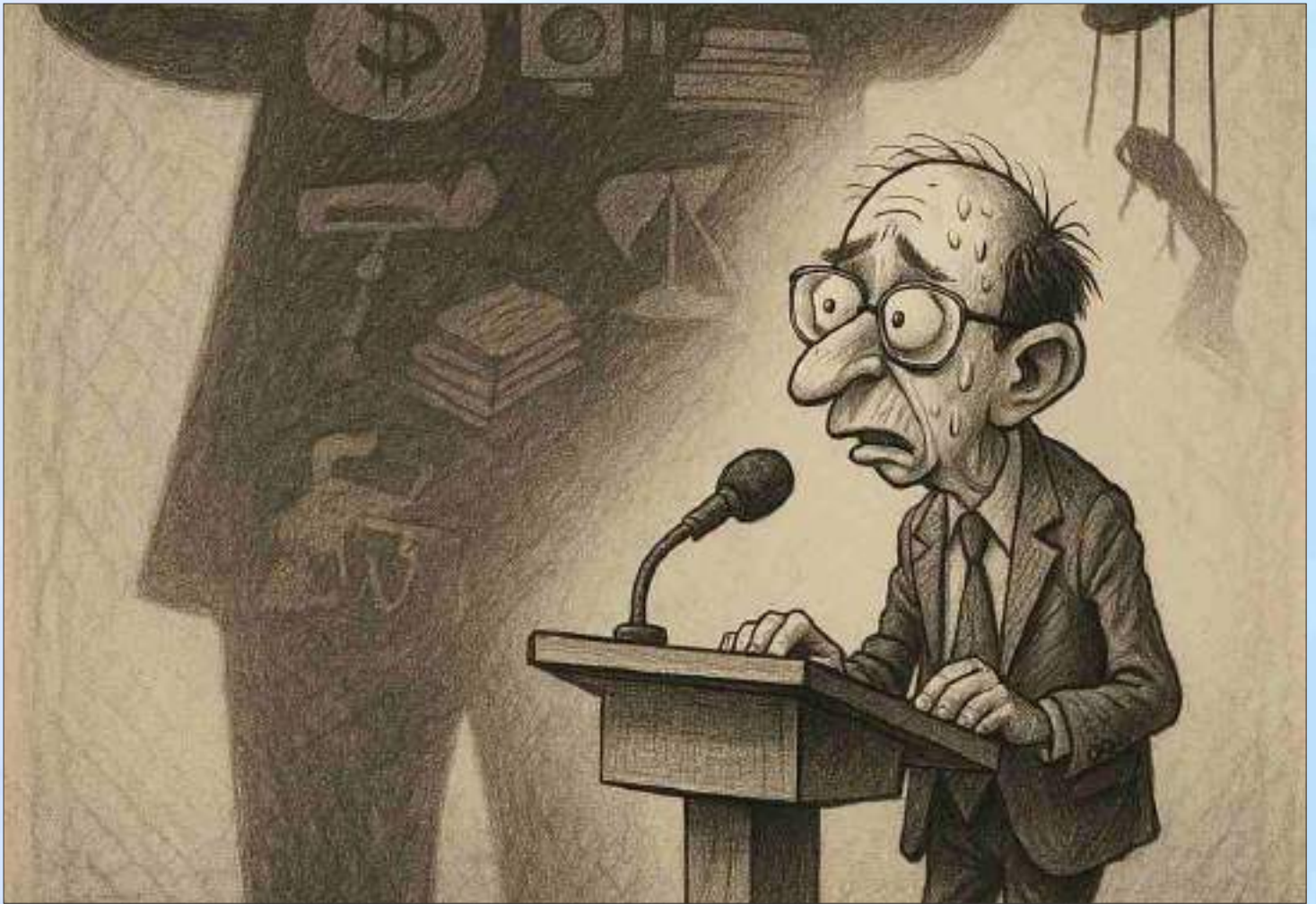
("I am One — let Me become many.")

~ From unity, multiplicity blooms — and from multiplicity, unity is rediscovered.

The seed of *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam* lies not in its harvest but in this very impulse. ~



Silhouettes of Power, Architects of Change



Power is the foundation stone, the vessel to influence unimpeachably and it is the invisible architecture upon which societies are built and institutions function. However, this architecture of power is tilted, it appears to be concomitant with temporal hierarchy. As a consequence, we, the fearless, unrelenting and untamed youth will inherit a society scaffolded in the reverence of age. True power is not domination, it is the ability to shape reality. And when that ability is concentrated in the few while the many watch from the margins, the world is not only unjust, but incomplete. In its most ethical form, power must be redistributive; it must be questioned, shared, and reimagined by every generation that inherits its weight.

We live in a world where the youth become inheritors of crises they did not create: climate catastrophe, digital exploitation, political decay. We are told to wait our turn, and speak when prompted. We are taught that leadership is a slow ladder to be climbed, rung by rung. But what if the house is burning? What if the act of waiting becomes an act of complicity?

This is not simply a political issue. This is a philosophical one. Who gets to imagine the future? Who determines what stories are told and who lives inside those stories? The answer has, for too long, remained the same. But the question is getting louder now. And it begins not in rebellion, but in contemplation. Because behind every shadow of power, there is a silhouette; young, alert, and rising.

Institutions claim to operate through a framework of meritocracy. We are led to believe that if we just work hard enough, speak softly enough, and nod long enough power will come for us. This is largely a fable that justifies and maintains a status quo. What masquerades as merit is often simply legacy; it's an inheritance of access, of legacy, of unarticulated entitlements.

The philosopher John Rawls once argued that a just society is a society where inequalities are arranged to the greater advantage of the least advantaged. By that measure, few modern systems are justified. Power is very rarely arranged ethically, instead it is hoarded like a relic, ritualized,

transfused hand to hand through invisible rituals. Meanwhile, the youth, are relegated to performance, to internships, to simulated diplomacy, to echo chambers of rehearsed ovations.

We don't ask to be handed the frameworks of the past, we ask to forge them. Not out of arrogance, but out of necessity. Just as the edifice of the present was not built for us, the tools of the past were not made to realize the possibilities of the future. In order to reshape power we must first shatter the myths about the supposed sanctity of age that fortify these myths.

To favour age is not necessarily wrong. Experience is a form of wisdom. However to pose age as the only condition for authority, is to ignore history's greatest catalyst: disruption. Every revolution, every renaissance, every protest in history has been led by those who refused to be taken for granted and fought to shape a future that is catered to their needs.

And yet, society clings to the illusion that age guarantees insight. We forget that

tradition, when left unexamined, becomes a form of inertia. The gerontocratic tendency to think that governance is best suited to those that have lived the longest but at this moment in time the world is yearning for a different lexicon, a different rhythm, a different imagination. In politics, diplomacy, and climate too, decisions are taken with a short-term lens from long held positions. But when those decisions ring through decades of time it is the youth who will live in the consequences of those decisions. Hence shouldn't those who will bear the weight of decisions deserve the heaviest hand in making them?

This generation has seen glaciers melt and ideals erode. We are the children of broken democracies and collapsed ecosystems. We have seen history weaponized and facts destabilized. And, yet, hope perseveres.

It persists not in blind optimism, but in deliberate resistance. Philosopher Hannah Arendt remarked, *"power corresponds to the human ability not just to act, but to act in concert."* Today the youth act in concert: across borders, across cultures, and across ideologies. We do not just think nationally or regionally; we think in terms of ecosystems, solidarities, and interdependencies.

Yet until the youth are entrusted and authorised to not merely participate but to lead, the grandeur of democracy lies

shrouded, its true power veiled to the outside world. If a democracy is to be truly "Of the people", it must be of "all" people; regardless of age, title or tradition.

It is no longer sufficient to simply invite youth into political spaces. We can no longer stop at the choreography of inclusion. We have to move forward from youth forums that advise but do not make decisions; councils that speak but are never heard. What we need is far more than a seat at the table of excluded representation; we need redistribution of agency, of authorship, of the power to be able to set the agenda, and not just react to it.

Imagine a world where the youth are not the subject of a policy but the policy-makers;

Where being under thirty grants constitutional quotas in parliaments and cabinets;

Where climate treaties are co-authored by the generation who will be accountable for them;

Imagine a politics that treats youth not as future capital, but a present power.

We stand at the precipice of systemic breakdown, the time for incremental change has long gone. The crises of our day are not patiently waiting for new reform; they are erupting in real time. Therefore, our efforts must be fast, bold and intergenerational. There is a moral urgency at this moment.

Climate change doesn't wait for election cycles. War doesn't stop for institutional reform. Technology will not slow its evolution down for institutions to catch up. The world is changing; violently, fast, and inevitably.

Our understanding of who authors the next chapter must change too.

When young people are delayed in their empowerment, it is not sustaining the status quo, it is courting irrelevance. Power that doesn't change becomes entrenched. Institutions who do not listen will disappear. Democracies that fail to meet or include their youngest citizens will ultimately implode under the weight of their own exclusions.

The world must begin to see its youth not as silhouettes on the edge of history, but as integral figures within it. We are not echoes of existing power; we are part of its evolution. Ours is not a desire to inherit what is broken, but a quiet resolve to imagine what could be built anew.

If we are expected to face the uncertainties of what lies ahead, then we must also be given the space to help shape its direction. If we are trusted to raise our voices in moments of crisis, we should be heard in moments of creation. And if we are to belong to the future that follows, then perhaps the work of shaping it must begin gently and deliberately, from here.



THE FINAL WORD



Disarmament and International Security Committee



Syed Ayaan Ali

An experienced debater and Student Council member. Former Chairman of SAITED 2024 and Editor-in-Chief of the first Sai Arthashastra. Passionate about political science, public speaking, and data interpretation.

UNGA-DISEC

American-Made, Globally-Felt



“Syed Ayaan Ali, Rapporteur of the United Nations General Assembly - Disarmament and International Security Committee, presents and interprets a poll about the US Constitution’s Second Amendment and the global arms trade”

Gathering a fairly politically diverse group of 19 people, each of them was asked 7 questions about world weaponry production and exports, as well as the increasingly controversial American Constitution’s Second Amendment, which states that it protects the right of the people to keep and bear arms. While some questions demonstrated near-unanimous agreement among the polled, some proved surprisingly contentious and contrarian.

Question 1: Do you support the Second Amendment in the context of the USA?

- Yes: 21%
- No: 68%
- Not Sure: 11%

Question 2: Would you support the Second Amendment in your country’s context?

- Yes: 16%
- No: 84%
- Not Sure: 0%

No one was unsure of their opinion in the second question. While a greater number of people were against the Second Amendment in both cases, the relatively greater number of people supporting it in the American context seems to suggest either a greater approval of its historical context or a greater disapproval of its implementation in their nation’s social atmosphere (note that most of those polled were of Indian nationality).

Question 3: To what extent do you support gun reform in the American context (including, but not limited to, background checks, gun permits, and psychological checks)?

- Not at All: 17%

- Moderately: 22%
- Highly: 61%
- Not Sure: 0%

Surprisingly, most of those who didn’t support gun reform were liberal or centre-leaning, suggesting a small but growing desire among even moderates to pursue alternative routes for gun control (or perhaps none at all).

Question 4: Do you think there should be more barriers (both economic, like tariffs, and political, like policymaking) to international arms trade?

- Yes to Both: 47%
- Yes to Economic Barriers Only: 12%
- Yes to Political Barriers Only: 18%
- No: 23%

Those who supported only economic barriers may think political action too extreme or difficult to take, and perhaps believe economic pressures to be more effective. Conversely, those who supported only political barriers might find sanctions and other economic barriers too lenient a strategy. Surprisingly, only 1 of those polled who replied in the negative to the previous question responded with a “no” here, too. This may suggest that those who support gun reform but not barriers to arms trade either support gun reform only in a specific context (perhaps either for Americans or for private citizens as a whole), or that they believe arms trade to be too important to nations’ defense sectors and the economy as a whole.

Question 5: What should be done to reduce the number of mass shootings in America?

- Increased Armed Security: 11%
- Gun Reform: 37%
- Both of the Above: 53%
- Nothing: 0%

One would find this question’s responses the most interesting of the lot. While one would expect a large number supporting gun reform, seeing the widespread support for increasing armed security (the often-used “good guys with guns” talking point, mostly backed by conservatives), even among the liberal-leaning, one must ponder whether support for use of force as a deterrent growing amongst the left-of-centre, may - at least, partially - be due to other recent geopolitical happenings, like the tragic Pahalgam attack on April 22, where a notable security lapse was felt.

Question 6: Do you believe the Second Amendment plays a major role in facilitating global arms trade and in fueling international conflicts?

- Yes, in facilitating global arms trade only: 12%
- Yes, in fueling international conflicts only: 6%



- Yes to Both: 59%
- No: 23%

While the response in the affirmative to both contexts being the majority wasn't surprising, the relatively large number of negative responses from those polled is perhaps a sign that the zeitgeist of the current administration's isolationist rhetoric is starting to be imbibed globally.

Question 7: To what extent do you support increasing the sharing of military technology and infrastructure (excluding arms)?

- Not at All: 22%
- Moderately: 61%
- Highly: 6%
- Not Sure: 11%

A separation between support for arms and that for other military technology is noticed. This may be chalked up to the result of a psychological disconnect between other military technology and death, either due to

the auxiliary role they play or to the physical distance between the target and the assailant when compared to firearms.

Overall, while most questions were replied to as expected, the opinions expressed show a murky and complex political ethos, too intertwined by personal and social context to be satisfactorily displayed in the dichotomous left-right spectrum. While a countless number of assumptions and hypotheses can be made in the interpretation of these polls, other cognitive, sociological, and deep-rooted reasons might be at play, which would provide better insight into each person's responses. Though near-impossible to unroot and analyse each aspect, it provides testament to how individuals, shaped by unique experiences and upbringings, possess and exhibit strong and sometimes contrasting opinions, which can't be packed neatly into boxes, and which play an important role in how they view and shape their community and the world.

50 Stars

“Syed Ayaan Ali, Rapporteur of the United Nations General Assembly - Disarmament and International Security Committee, depicts a simultaneous narrative of two otherwise vastly different teenagers in a harrowing situation”

“Please, please, please, God, if I get out of this, I swear I’ll always help mom with the dishes, just, please let me live.”

“God, if you can hear me right now, I’m sorry I shouted at Bilal the other day. If I can’t tell him, please let him know somehow.”

“Oh. Oh my. Mrs. Johnson. Is she... Oh God, she is. How could they do this? Will I ever get to be in an Econ class again? Will I... Will I ever get to go to school again? This school?”

“No. Zainab... She’s breathing, thank God. Her white dress is all red now, though. Ummy won’t be able to wash it out. Ummy, I want to see you again. Please, God, I want to see my Ummy.”

“I think I see them. Right there. Don’t come here, don’t come here... Okay, I think I’m in the clear. Those horrid skull masks... Why us? Why me? And today of all days, too.”

“Should I peek out the window? Just a bit... There they are. I recognise the olive uniforms and the sword pin attached to the beret all too well. Are they coming closer? I should lie down.”



“Wait - there’s the door. I have to make a run for it. Okay. Please help me, God. Okay. Okay, here goes. Yes. YES. FINA-”

“If I grab Zainab and run, there might at least be a chance we get to safety. It’s too late for ‘Amm... Okay. God help us. First to unbuckle her seatbelt... There. Okay. Here we go. Yes. WE MIGHT MAKE I-”

There’s a sharp, horrible, screeching pain somewhere on my back. I... I can’t feel my legs. I try to crawl a bit further, but it’s useless. I can’t go on anymore. It’s starting to go dark. What’s that? It’s... It’s one of the assailants’ guns. It’s lying close to me. As I close my eyes, that same image plays in my head again and again. That mark of death. That tiny red, white and blue stamp on the gun.



United Nations Security Council



**Prathmesh
Gaurav**

Veteran of over 20 MUNs with a focus on international law and geopolitics. Former Director of Resources at UNWIND 2024 and the only school student from Odisha selected for the National Young Leaders Dialogue.

UNSC

Yemeni Houthi Attacks and Red Sea Security



“Prathmesh Gaurav, reporting from the United Nations Security Council (UNSC)”

Security is not the lack of threats; it is the existence of resolution. When the sun sets behind the Horn of Africa, its shine on the Red Sea is no longer a reflection of peace, but of turmoil. The Babel-Mandeb Strait, which was once a bridge of commerce and cooperation, has now become a hub in the contemporary inequity of conflict between states and non-state actors.

The attacks by Houthi rebels from Yemen, escalating in both frequency and ferocity, have not only threatened regional balance but also sent shocks across the global trading ecosystem. This demands more than concern- **it demands collective conviction.**

In a campaign to militarise the ocean, Houthis hijacked vessels, seized cargo ships, and sabotaged oil transport lines, spurred by ideological compulsions and with the support of outside powers, including Iran. What began as an internal conflict has escalated into a geostrategic concern. The Red Sea, a vital artery between the Suez Canal and the Indian Ocean, is now in danger of becoming the world's next sea choke point—unless the world takes action decisively.

It is observed that the Red Sea carries nearly 15 percent of global trade and almost 30

percent of container shipments through the Suez Canal and Bab el-Mandeb. Yet since late 2023, successive Houthi salvos—missiles spiralling like dark omens, unmanned drones haunting the horizon, and sudden boardings—have forced vessels to reroute via the long path around the Cape of Good Hope, which ironically offers little hope for global maritime commerce.

Underwriters, sensing the slightest opportunity for extraction, have more than doubled war-risk premiums for Red Sea transits—some abandoning the route altogether, causing freight rates to skyrocket by cutting off a commerce lifeline; these actions are more than regional turmoil. They strike at the core of maritime order, exacting costs echoing far beyond the waves and threatening the stability of world markets.

The United Nations Security Council is not unfamiliar with threats of this magnitude. It was created precisely to address such transnational dangers. History offers a precedent: the anti-piracy resolutions (1816 and 1851) passed in 2008 empowered international navies to jointly combat Somali piracy, leading to a drastic reduction in hijackings and the restoration of maritime safety in the Gulf of Aden. That successful campaign, anchored in coordination and swift multilateral response, showcased the Council's ability to reclaim security in the Horn of Africa, then too, a threatened gateway of global commerce.

Today, the Red Sea faces a similar fate. Its waters are once again imperilled not by pirates, but by a more organised and ideologically driven force. Just as the Council rose to the occasion in the past, it must now demonstrate its resolve anew. The Horn of Africa, once secured through UN action, must again become a sanctuary for trade, diplomacy, and order. This is not merely a regional conflict, it is an affront to the international system.

The UNSC's January 2024 condemnation of the attacks was a necessary step, but the time for words alone has passed. The Council now faces a defining question: Will it assert its mandate to secure international peace and security, or will it allow a non-state actor to dictate terms on one of the world's most strategic trade routes?

The tools exist. Under Chapter VII of the UN Charter, the Council can coordinate multilateral naval patrols, enforce sanctions on Houthi leadership, and designate these maritime attacks as acts of international terrorism. Furthermore, it can empower the international community to isolate external actors, enabling the insurgency. But only time will tell what the controller of global peace decides in its mandate after deliberations in the upcoming session.

The Houthis' transformation into a transnational disruptor marks a dangerous evolution like modern conflict. They are no longer merely a domestic faction in Yemen's civil war; they are now operating beyond national borders with state-like consequences. In such circumstances, the international community must draw a clear line between legitimate state action and non-state militancy.

This is not about choosing sides in Yemen, it is about protecting the principles of free navigation, lawful conduct, and international order. The Red Sea cannot become a lawless frontier. It must remain a shared channel of peace and prosperity.

The Council's past success in the Gulf of Aden is a guiding light. As it faces yet another challenge. Let the Horn of Africa once more reflect stability, not strife. Let the sanctuary of sea routes—again be safeguarded by unity, not fear.

And the Council must realise: *“The protection of global trade is not a regional favour; it is a global duty.”*

This agenda is more than timely; it is urgent.

This is not a crisis in waiting, it is a crisis in motion.

And in the waters of the Red Sea, the world now watches to see whether peace will sail again.



Safeguarding Global Security Amidst Maritime Crisis

Prathmesh Gaurav, reporting from the United Nations Security Council (UNSC)

In a global landscape that stands fragmented within borders, beliefs and interests, it appears quite easy to regard the notion of global collectivity as idealism, which appeals only in theory and is rendered unrealistic. However, recent developments in the Red Sea highlight the profound interconnectivity in the modern world. A result, of conflict occurring thousands of miles away affecting the movement of their very global transport. It becomes abundantly clear that no state can exist in isolation

Consider the Red Sea, for instance, between Bab-el-Mandeb and the Suez Canal. It acts as an essential route for international trade, routing 10% of all container shipments and 35% of the world's oil transit. The escalation of the Houthi Rendezvous, backed by Iran, has jeopardized the very concept of global maritime connectivity. Tankers transporting fuel, food, and manufactured products have been attacked, causing significant disruption in global markets.

Take for instance a situation where every nation chooses to look out for itself. If each country turned a blind eye to the crisis in the Red Sea because it didn't have a direct impact on their borders, the disorder would only worsen. Vessels would need to navigate longer, more expensive routes through the Cape of Good Hope; crucial supplies could become limited, putting the entirety of global security under scrutiny.

However, positive hope lies in this situation being away at least for a while. International collaboration provides a solution to this predicament. When nations unite - exchanging intelligence, coordinating maritime patrols, imposing sanctions, and participating in diplomatic discussions they can establish a structure which *curtails violence and encourages stability*.

Some critics claim that international collaboration can be slow, unwieldy, or plagued by political maneuvers. Multilateral talks can extend over long periods, and compromises may dilute ambitious proposals. However, these shortcomings are the cost of agreement among various countries with differing interests and cultures yet, this very same global community has come to Africa's rescue by successfully curtailing piracy in Somalia through UNSC Resolutions in 2009

The global community plays a critical role in shaping responses to the Yemen conflict and Red Sea security. Its resolutions, repercussions, and calls for dialogue demonstrate the international community's dedication to peace. *But are mere words enough?* The realist perspective is to transform these into commitment and definite actions in the form of coordinated naval deployments, the disarmament of non-state actors and discussion of true peace and this is where the private sector comes in. Shipping corporations, insurance, and trade groups all have a clear interest in maritime security and hold lobbying power for bolder international action because disturbances in the Red Sea increase consumer costs and pose threats to enterprises worldwide.

On a broader scale, global engagement builds trust in a world filled with skepticism and competitiveness. The amalgam of states and the corporations open up channels for conversation and dispute resolution which remind us of the fact that despite their differences, nations share a shared humanity and are interdependent, which becomes critical in an era when local conflicts can swiftly escalate and spread across borders.



Of course, cooperation is not a cure-all. It calls for political will, transparency, and accountability. It calls on powerful nations to respect the sovereignty and interests of smaller ones. However, when done well, cooperation expands the instruments available for managing crises, preventing violence, and promoting prosperity.

Finally, the Red Sea crisis tests the global community's ability to steer beyond self vested interest and look into this matter with the support of regional actors and the UN Security Council. If the world responds to this challenge with the urgency and unity that it deserves, there is irrevocable hope that the solution of the conflict may be just a day away

For every single human on this very planet - whether policymakers, community leaders or ordinary citizens—global cooperation is more than an ideal. It is a practical necessity in an interconnected world. Working together, the world can ensure that vital waterways remain open, conflicts are resolved peacefully, and shared challenges are met with common resolve. The future depends on our ability to act together, thoughtfully, because in the end, when one part of the world suffers, we all feel the impact and when one part succeeds, we all share in the benefit.



United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees



Aahan Akankhit Mishra

A Class XII Humanities student and seasoned MUNer. Currently UNHCR Rapporteur, with over 10 MUNs to his credit. Core member of UNWIND, Director of Editorial Operations at *SAI Vistarika*, and set to represent SAI at Harvard MUN India 2025. Passionate about diplomacy, legal jurisprudence, and refugee issues.

UNHCR

Beneath the Crimson Flag: The Tibetan Struggle for Faith & Freedom

"Aahan Akankhit Mishra reporting from the United Nations High Commissioner on Refugees (UNHCR)"

The UNHCR Committee kicked off with a heated debate on the continued persecution of Tibetan Buddhists by China. In discussing the stark realities of religious suppression, cultural elimination, and human rights abuse, one major thread won considerable momentum: Is China's policy in Tibet an exercise of necessary national consolidation or a deliberate stifling of religious freedom?

Let's get into the arguments after understanding the problem at hand. In the People's Republic of China, specifically in the Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR), Tibetan Buddhists have been under strict restrictions in the name of keeping "national unity and stability" intact for a long time. The Chinese Constitution officially promises religious freedom, but the reality for Tibetan Buddhists is quite different and mostly oppressive. Its seeds were planted following China's 1950 invasion of Tibet, when Beijing claimed sovereignty over Tibet. Following this was an era of radical change. The 1959 Tibetan rebellion saw the 14th Dalai Lama escape to India—a turning point in the political and spiritual



disenfranchisement of the Tibetans. Accounts from the likes of Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International outline the bleak decades that ensued. Monasteries were shut down or closely watched, religious studies were curbed, and monks were compelled to receive "patriotic re-education" campaigns that substituted religious teaching for government propaganda.

Representing the People's Republic of China, the delegate delivered a meticulously structured defence of its domestic policies. "Tibet is an inseparable part of China," the delegate asserted, citing Article 4 of China's Constitution, which guarantees minority rights while simultaneously emphasizing national unity. According to the delegate, the Chinese government's measures are aimed at combating separatism and extremism under the banner of 'social stability'.

With references to China's 2019 white paper titled "Democratic Reform in Tibet - Sixty Years On", the delegation highlighted socio-economic progress in the region: infrastructure development, poverty alleviation, and improved access to healthcare. The argument contended that monastic restrictions and surveillance were implemented to prevent anti-nationalist propaganda, rather than to suppress religious expression.

In what can only be described as a diplomatic poker face, the delegate added, "We do not persecute Tibetan Buddhists. We protect their rights while preserving our sovereignty."

In a striking contrast, the delegate of Germany provided a poignant rebuttal that drew gasps of silent agreement.

"When monks are jailed for possessing a photo of the Dalai Lama, what freedom are we preserving?"

Germany's delegate referenced Human Rights Watch's 2023 report and testimonies from former Tibetan monks in exile,



painting a grim picture of life under constant surveillance. A key emphasis was on the systematic 'Sinicisation' of Tibetan Buddhism—whereby religious texts are rewritten, monastic schools replaced with political indoctrination centres, and reincarnation itself is regulated by the Communist Party.

The delegate underscored the UNHCR's obligation to address the plight of Tibetan refugees who face "a second exile" as they encounter border closures, limited asylum opportunities, and diplomatic pressure from Beijing on host countries. Invoking the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, particularly Article 18 on freedom of thought, conscience, and religion, the delegate demanded stronger accountability mechanisms.

Another powerful voice came from the delegate of Canada, who rhetorically asked, "Is national unity achieved by rewriting prayer books?"

As the debate thread evolved, the committee found itself straddling the razor's edge between geopolitical sovereignty and humanitarian principles. While the Chinese delegate insisted on internal jurisdiction, others called for a renewed international approach that balances diplomatic tact with firm advocacy.

The discussion also underscored the role of the UNHCR not merely as a reactive body, but as a proactive mediator and facilitator of safe passage for Tibetan refugees. Delegates acknowledged the nuanced complexities, but a shared undercurrent persisted: silence is complicity.

In the words of Elie Wiesel: "Wherever men and women are persecuted because of their race, religion, or political views, that place must—at that moment—become the center of the universe." For Tibetan Buddhists, that place is Tibet. And for the international conscience, the time to act is now.

With further sessions on resettlement frameworks, refugee protections, and religious liberties expected, the fate of Tibetan Buddhism may remain entangled in diplomatic red tape. But as one delegate put it, "We may not settle sovereignty, but we must not sacrifice humanity."

The prayer beads still turn, but so too does the wheel of global conscience.

The Fragile Flame of Faith: Why the World Must Stand with Tibet

"Aahan Akankhit Mishra reporting from the United Nations High Commissioner on Refugees (UNHCR)"

It is a strange paradox of our age of global existence that voices carry across continents, yet remain unheard. This has been the fate of the Tibetan Buddhists, who remain persecuted in China in quiet ways, consistently, and with intentional purpose. In an era where social media makes every whisper a shout, the silence regarding Tibetan Buddhism is loud. From the monasteries of Lhasa to the refugee schools of Dharamshala, a crisis persists that transcends borders, beliefs, and bureaucracy.

Religion, pushed to the fringes by state ideology, is not simply suppressed; it is nailed to the cross of conformity. The Chinese government's push to "sinicise" Tibetan Buddhism to make it conform to state ideals and regulate its spiritual leadership is not an administrative order but an attack on identity. China is claiming to protect "ethnic harmony", but in reality, it is constructing a scrubbed version of Tibetan Buddhism that lacks its soul.

Why should this matter to us? Because the persecution of any group for what they believe is a danger to us all. The United Nations, established on the ruins of genocide and totalitarianism, exists specifically to protect us from this. Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights codifies the right to "freedom of thought, conscience and religion". But in Tibet, this right is neither defended nor honoured.

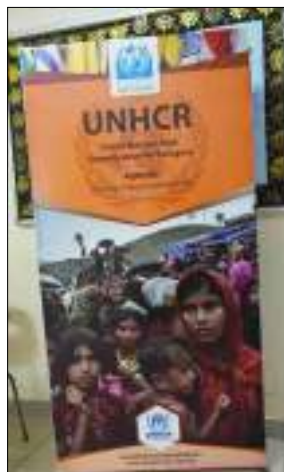
This is not just a religious issue—it runs very much deeper. The crisis in Tibet is an issue of identity, of memory, and of human dignity. To take away a people's spiritual heritage is to destroy the very essence of who they are. As former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan astutely put it, "Human rights are what make us human. They are the principles by which we create the sacred home for human dignity".

In stark contrast, China's narrative that its actions are about "national unity" rings hollow and unsettling. It evokes a troubling echo of Orwellian doublespeak. What unity is forged by demolishing monasteries? What harmony is achieved through mass surveillance and enforced disappearances?

A monk in Dharamshala once told me, "Silence is not absence. It is present — just unacknowledged". This is where we, as the global youth and future leaders, must step in.

Our generation cannot afford to be indifferent. The Dalai Lama once remarked, "Our prime purpose in this life is to help others. And if you can't help them, at least don't hurt them". As students, diplomats, and future leaders, our task is to amplify the voices that cannot speak. We must question governments that stay silent for trade deals and stand with those who choose conscience over convenience.

UNHCR has expressed alarm at Tibetan refugees, but words must be followed with action. Host countries should recommit to non-refoulement and enhance asylum aid. Education and cultural programs amongst exiled communities require



consistent international support. Tibetans in diaspora should not be left to uphold a civilization by themselves. In addition, the international community should put pressure on China to grant access to international human rights monitors in Tibet. This is not a matter of interfering in matters of sovereignty; it is a matter of upholding international commitments.

And above all, we need to listen. Listen to the tales of those who escaped over the Himalayas with only hope in their hearts. Listen to the prayers wafting on the breeze from shattered temples. Faith should never require a permit. Listen and let that translate into action.

Prayer should never be a matter of permission. And faith should never be contained within barbed wire. In the tale of the Tibetan Buddhists is a question greater than ourselves: Do we believe in freedom when it is convenient, or when it is not? Let us opt for the latter. Let us opt for humanity.

United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women



**Adyasha
Priyadarshini**

A passionate debater with experience in over 10 MUNs, specialising in social and human rights committees. A published poet and writer, she actively participates in global governance and social leadership initiatives.

UN-WOMEN



The Clock Unstruck: A Global Betrayal

“Adyasha Priyadarshini, reporting from the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-WOMEN)”

In the dimly lit corridors of the reign of the Taliban, echoes of that divulge the oppression justified under the guise of enforcing the *Islamic Sharia law*. The paths that are now overburdened by the weight of those withered leaves that once led to the classrooms, courtrooms, and conference halls. Afghanistan today is isolated as the sole country where girls are banned from secondary and higher education. The only country that pulls the shutters on women-owned firms and enterprises.

With the exit of the United States military, demolished, was the eminently hard-won progress for Afghan women was demolished. Between 2001 and 2021, Afghan women made unprecedented strides. Over 3.5 million girls enrolled in schools, university campuses filled with female students, and women assumed roles as doctors, judges, parliamentarians, and entrepreneurs. Women's participation in parliament reached 27%, a figure remarkable for the region, signaling a new era of inclusion.

The enforcement brought by the Taliban rule dropped 80% of Afghan girls out of school. Female employment has been decimated, with 95% of women-led businesses shuttered, and public spaces, once places of recreation and community, have been sealed off to women. Female aid workers, essential for delivering humanitarian assistance, have faced bans, harassment, and imprisonment.

It is quite the satire that unfolds as one counts Afghanistan amongst the list of nations that have ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), which demands equality in the sphere of education, employment and public engagement. Quite contrary to the teachings of Islam brought to

light by Islamic scholars and nations that state Islam does not prohibit female education or employment, the Taliban has dismantled the core principles of the CEDAW. UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (UNSCR 1325), adopted in 2000, calls for women's inclusion in peace processes, their protection in conflict, and an end to gender-based violence. As news to none, Afghanistan's failure is brutal to overlook, as there resides not a single woman represented in the Taliban's leadership or peace dialogues, violating the very spirit of the UNSCR 1325.

The ramifications of this crisis ripple beyond the borders of Afghanistan. Estimates by the UNHCR account for over a million women and girls to have fled the country in 2021, straining neighbouring countries with an increasing pressure to provide refuge, humanitarian assistance, and resettlement

opportunities amidst thinning resources. The International committees' responses have proved to be hindrances to overcoming these repressions, as Humanitarian aid, vital for millions, is frequently delivered without conditions, indirectly funding the regime's oppressive policies. Hence, it feeds into the broader issue of diplomatic inconsistency.

The International condemnation has been loud, but the actions, so very faint. The silence of the global community towards the impunity of the Taliban rule is testament to its betrayal of all those drafts formulated. The women fighting in the shadows, risking arrest to teach, to speak, to resist, are the true face of resilience. But resilience should not be mistaken for a solution. The tides have washed the shore. The sun about to set. It is now that the clock must strike on the silence that shatters the shackles on Her throat hoarse from shouting into silence. The world must act, not just admire.



The Reign of Promises, The Rule of Silences

“Adyasha Priyadarshini, reporting from the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-WOMEN)”

*What is this land so eerie?
I wail as They drown my head,
“‘Tis but a mere reverie”.*

*What is this land so eerie?
I choke as They clench my tongue to teeth,
“Words are yet quite smeary”.*

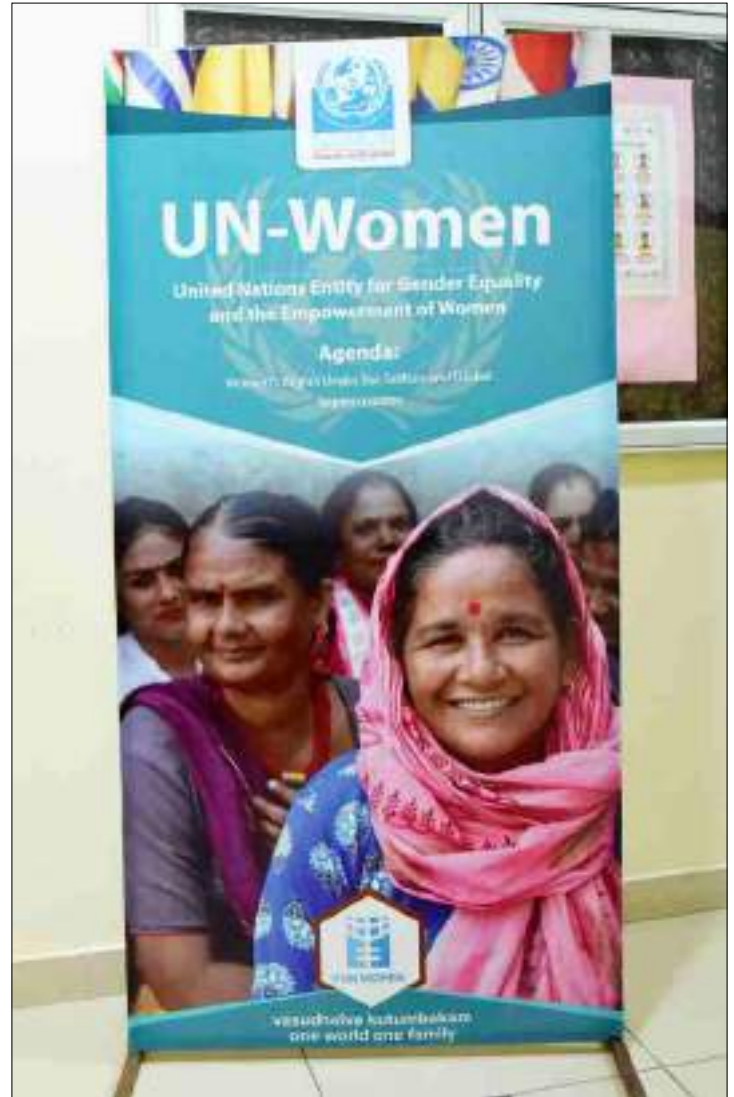
*What is this land so eerie?
I screech, as They fetter my arms robustly,
“Thou must rest all needs to be wary”.*

*What is this land so eerie?
I bellow, as They numb the veins up my toes to knees,
“Thou art but so uncannily weary”.*

*What is this land so eerie?
I shudder as They expunge the sight out of my eyes,
“Oh, but the dreams shan’t we bury”.*

*What is this land so eerie?
I lament as They muffle the voices in my ears,
“Oh, but the howl only disrupts thy thoughts fierce, utterly”.*

*What is this land so eerie?
I falter, as They watch the life relinquish my soul,
“The world is but a mere enclosure of hearts so dreary”.*



United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change



Abhinav Deb Biswal

A qualified delegate and dynamic STEM advocate with internships at LV Prasad Eye Institute and Brighton and Sussex Medical School. Former Director of Medicine at SAITED 2024 and Editor-in-Chief of *SAI Vistarika*. Committed to science, foreign policy, and climate change mitigation.

UNFCCC

Beyond Cop28: The Fatal Flaws In Our Approach To The Airpocalypse

“Abhinav Deb Biswal, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)”

The morning air in Jakarta hangs heavy, thick with toxins invisible to the eye but unmistakable in their effects. Ten-year-old Sari pulls her KN95 mask tighter, bracing herself for a day where every breath could burn her lungs. Across continents, in Lahore, hospitals brace for the next wave of asthma attacks, stockpiling bronchodilators as if preparing for war. Meanwhile, in Los Angeles, parents nervously check air quality apps, weighing the risks of letting their children play outside.

This isn't climate action. It's a meticulously choreographed performance—a theater of numbers and promises played out far from the suffocating streets where children struggle to breathe. For three decades, the COP summits have measured success in percentages—“1.5 degrees,” “net-zero by

2050,” “45% emissions cuts.” These numbers have become our blindfold, distracting us from the urgent crisis unfolding beneath the smog.

We worship carbon metrics while turning a blind eye to the poisons filling our skies. A “carbon-neutral” waste incinerator continues to release deadly dioxins, silent killers drifting through communities. Electric vehicles may reduce exhaust pipes, but they leave behind clouds of toxic tire dust, an insidious killer settling deep in lungs. Delhi might boast about meeting its Paris Agreement targets, but every year, 1.5 million Indians succumb to PM2.5 pollution, a staggering human toll that no statistic can fully capture.

Promises of climate adaptation funds—“\$100 billion pledged” - ring hollow when not a cent is allocated for pediatric asthma clinics in pollution hotspots or for installing air filtration systems in schools across sub-Saharan Africa. We build seawalls for a drowned future while children today are drowning in toxic air, their lungs filling with poison.

Our obsession with high-definition satellite images of melting glaciers contrasts sharply with the fact that 68% of African cities lack real-time air quality monitors. Pollution deaths in the world's poorest slums go unrecorded, erased from global data and collective conscience. This is not just a blackout of information—it is a blackout of justice.

The false solutions peddled by industry and politics only deepen the crisis. “Clean” natural gas is sold as a bridge to renewables, yet methane leaks along pipelines wipe out any climate gains, while nitrogen oxides trigger asthma epidemics in already vulnerable populations. Carbon offsets have become a cynical trade, allowing wealthy

financiers in London to buy the right to pollute while those burning trash in Lagos inhale death. Electric vehicles, hailed as saviors, exchange tailpipe pollution for tire microplastics, now accounting for 78% of microplastics polluting our oceans - poisoning ecosystems and food chains far from the cities that produce them.

It is the greatest pollution shell game in history where smoke and mirrors hide a lethal truth.

Yet, amidst despair, resistance flickers with fierce determination. In Mexico City, medical examiners have begun listing “atmospheric particulate” as a cause of death. For the first time, a coal plant has faced legal charges for homicide. In Freetown, refugees have transformed desperation into innovation, building moss towers that reduce PM2.5 levels by nearly 20%. Seoul's architects have designed “wind paths,” channeling fresh air through urban canyons to breathe life into the city. In Manila, activists harness inhaler sales data to predict smog waves, imploring that asthma medications be treated as vital climate indicators.

These are more than isolated acts—they form the People's Manifesto, a clarion call against the airpocalypse.

The path forward demands bold, systemic change: We must establish an Atmospheric Crimes Tribunal to hold corporate executives criminally accountable for premeditated lung damage. Assets should be frozen until childhood lead levels fall to safe standards. Clean air must be recognized as essential human infrastructure, with empowered municipal “Air Health” departments granted veto power over industrial zoning that threatens breathability. Breathability bonds can finance hyperlocal solutions—urban green spaces, advanced filtration systems, and community-based air monitoring networks. Finally, a Right-to-Breathe Index should rank nations by the actual lung health of their citizens, imposing visa bans and trade restrictions on officials from the most toxic countries.

When historians look back on this era, they will not care for our carbon math or our carefully negotiated targets. They will ask **why** we accepted babies born with mercury coursing through their veins, **why** schoolyards were abandoned on “air days,” and **why** bottled mountain air became an obscene luxury for the wealthy.

But what could be more dangerous than air that kills on contact, that steals life one breath at a time?

This is our reckoning. The air we breathe is the ultimate battleground. Justice demands we fight—not tomorrow, not in some distant future, but now.



Air Quality and Health Crisis in Major Cities

“Abhinav Deb Biswal United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)”

The proposed agenda — namely focused on addressing the urgent and critical problem of air quality and the health crisis that afflicts large urban agglomerations — is a thoughtful and strategically designed intervention that well falls within the overall mandate of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The agenda is squarely aligned with the Paris Agreement's acknowledgment of health co-benefits under Article 7, and accordingly it solidifies urban air pollution as not only an urgent problem in mitigation but also a significant priority for adaptation. By focusing on the harmful impacts on vulnerable populations that are most exposed, the agenda also aligns with and supports the broader objectives of the Warsaw International Mechanism on Loss and Damage, which seeks to address these challenges comprehensively.

The comparative advantage of the UNFCCC is singular in that it positions the organization exceptionally well to lead on this vital issue. As a global leader on climate policy, the UNFCCC is well positioned to campaign on the inclusion of specific air quality targets in Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and Long-Term Strategies country parties adopt. Furthermore, as a successful fund facilitator, it has the capacity to channel much-needed finance from financial instruments such as the Green Climate Fund and the Adaptation Fund into projects that promote urban clean-air solutions. As a significant platform for facilitating transparency and accountability, the Convention also has potential to include metrics relating to PM2.5 and nitrogen oxides (NOx) in the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF), thereby enhancing data collection and reporting standards in this area.

The agenda itself is explicit in its designation of several entry points for policy action and engagement. One of these opportunities is the Global Stocktake (GST), which has the potential to be an important monitoring instrument for progress in air quality improvement alongside reductions in CO₂ emissions. Additionally, the 2025 revision of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) presents a strategic and timely opportunity to push for the setting of binding targets for air pollution reduction. At the next COP29, there is a prospect of advancing a "Clean Air Decision" that would mandate the inclusion of WHO-conformant air

quality standards in national climate plans and policy.

With that said, it is well to note that several risks need to be carefully managed in order to maximize the effectiveness of these efforts. There is a risk that air quality would be relegated to secondary status, dealt with as a mere "health issue" instead of a core climate issue that needs to take top priority. Additionally, unavailability of data, particularly in urban areas across the Global South, would severely undermine efforts under the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) for monitoring and reporting. Moreover, efforts to regulate pollutants such as methane and black carbon may encounter significant opposition from entrenched fossil fuel interests, making progress difficult to achieve.

To drive meaningful change and action, the UNFCCC could introduce a new *"Climate & Clean Air"* financing for ten large cities - Dhaka, Lagos, and Mexico City included - to fold clean air objectives into their climate action plans. The initiative would assist these cities in tackling emissions and air pollution, while delivering prompt health and economical benefits which leads to overall advancement of long term climate goals. At COP29, the messaging must resonate on multiple fronts: **morally**, *"1.5°C"* is meaningless if children can't breathe at *"1°C"*; **economically**, *"Air pollution costs 6.1% of global GDP - climate action must address this"*; and **for justice**, *"Clean air is a right, not a privilege of wealth or geography"*. This approach would not only sharpen the focus on tangible outcomes but also rally broader political and public support by framing climate action as a direct investment in



human well-being. Coalition 2.0 - in official collaboration with WHO, C40 Cities, and ICLEI - can amplify urban air quality solutions internationally. An *"Air Quality Transparency Protocol"* must be crafted to facilitate consistent PM2.5 and NOx reporting under the ETF. A flagship *"Health-Climate Cities"* pilot can fast-track

All in all, this agenda is not an add-on to climate talks - it is a test of the UNFCCC's relevance and responsiveness. If the Convention cannot respond to the urban air emergency - an emergency that kills 9 million people a year - it will begin to lose touch with the actual, lived effects of climate change. With its firm anchoring to the UNFCCC's instruments and timelines, this agenda is 9/10 on institutional relevance. Now its success hinges on political will - and high-level champions like the UNFCCC Executive Secretary or the COP Presidency - to put it right at the top of the global climate agenda.



World Health Organization



**Rishit
Mohakud**

A driven Grade XII Commerce student and Managing Director of UNWIND. An award-winning filmmaker, he won Best Short Film at the International Dadasaheb Phalke Film Festival. Completed internships at the National University of Singapore (AI/ML) and Z Estates. Passionate about finance, economics, and creative leadership.

WHO

The Clinic on Maple Street



“Rapporteur Rishit Mohakud reporting from the World Health Organisation (WHO)”

There's a pale yellow building on the corner of Maple Street. It looks like it's due for a fresh coat of paint. You can hear the ceiling fan squeaking across the waiting room; the sign board is rusty - it's the kind of building that a person might pass by without even a second thought. But they don't.

Because there's a lot happening in that building.

That is the Maple Street Clinic. The hinges on the door are a bit stiff. And if you arrive at around 9 a.m., you'll see Nurse Elena wrestling with the shutters. She has been there forever (or appears to have been, at least). She knows everyone's blood group, their kids' names and which tea is "a bit too sweet."

Mr. Das comes in every Thursday. Mr. Das is a retired teacher. He is obsessed with his blood pressure.

"145 over 92," he'll say.

"Not great. But manageable." And then he tries to give a lecture to everyone in the room, and for the most part, everyone listens. Sort of.

And then we have Fatima Auntie. She has a very clear voice. Fatima Auntie brings one of those small snack boxes that she swears is sugar-free. It's not, but we don't say it, because she means well.

And then, there is Ramesh. He is twenty-six and comes in twice a month. Ramesh has asthma. He sometimes tells us that his asthma is under control. Sometimes it is, sometimes it isn't. I remember a time when Elena was talking to him, and he said he had joined a football team.

"Didn't wheeze once," he said, grinning.

Elena gave him a clap. Which made his day, or maybe the entire year. He seems happy all the time now.

In an unassuming corner of the clinic, you'd find Asha. Asha doesn't talk much. Asha's mum doesn't talk much either. Elena makes them both sit. Elena doesn't rush them. She looks after them by just bringing them tea and sitting down, silently. I suppose sometimes, that's enough.

None of them are here for a diagnosis of a fever. Or a broken arm. This is not that sort of a clinic.

These people live with things that stay.

Diabetes. Heart issues. Asthma. Depression. The books call them "*non-communicable diseases*." But these illnesses affect more than just the body - they weigh on the mind too, they bring worry, loneliness, and anxiety that don't show up in test results.

The medical field uses these complicated terms to describe diseases that persist beyond a week. A poster appeared on the wall during that particular Sunday.

Then came the health circle. Elena's idea. Plastic chairs under the neem tree. People talked. Asked questions. Shared recipes. Swapped tips on quitting stuff. How to walk more. Eat better. Sleep at decent hours.

And yeah, sometimes they laughed. Sometimes they didn't. Sometimes they found solace in their own sorrow — in shared glances, quiet nods, and the simple truth that they weren't alone

The mural came next. A bunch of school kids painted it. Four hands holding each other, round in a circle. The paint is flaking now, but you can still read the line under it:

"Stronger Together."

Maple Street hasn't changed much. The tea still burns your tongue. That dog still naps outside the clinic. But things inside? They feel... lighter - not because the pain is gone, but because it's shared. In quiet talks, small laughs, and Nurse Elena's steady presence, healing found a way to settle in.

Mr. Das still lectures. Fatima still brings snacks. Ramesh talks more. Asha's mum smiled last week.

And Nurse Elena? Still there. Still scribbling notes in her register. Still listening.

That clinic isn't perfect. But it's real.

I've taken writing as my new hobby.

Ramesh says, "*Writing will always remind you of your good times*", but he always falls silent when I ask him:

"Can I remember them even after I die?"

I've had cancer for way too long now. I can hear Nurse Elena over the curtain, whispering to my mother that I don't have much time left. I can see my mother's red eyes before she tries her best to smile in front of me. I act as if I don't notice; if I do, it will only make her sadder.

Mr. Das and Ramesh tell me I'll live for a hundred years. But I'm only twelve.

Fatima Auntie has suddenly started bringing me more snacks. I can sometimes see the worry on her face, even when she tries to joke.

Yesterday I heard Nurse Elena say "*One week*," to my mother.

I can hardly lift this pen now. My hands feel frail.

I'm betting on another three days, max. My writing seems incomplete. *If I wake up tomorrow*, I'll add something to it

Confronting the Global Burden: A Focus on Non-Communicable Diseases

“Rapporteur Rishit Mohakud reporting from the World Health Organisation (WHO)”

While global health has often focused on infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases (NCDs) have quietly emerged as a major challenge. Chronic yet devastating, NCDs like cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular conditions, and mental illnesses affect millions worldwide, regardless of age, income, or location.

Opinion Poll: Understanding Views on the NCD Crisis

Unlike sudden epidemics, NCDs progress silently but have a widespread impact, burdening healthcare, draining economies, and altering lives. This raises a crucial question:

How prepared and united is the world in its response?

Let's delve deeper into the global landscape of NCDs, examining public opinion, responsibility, and the road ahead for sustainable and preventive action.

Question 1: Do you think today's youth are aware of the risks of NCDs like hypertension, diabetes, and stress-related illness?

- Yes: 100%
- No: 0%
- Undecided: 0%

All of the respondents (100%) believe that today's youth are reasonably aware of the risks posed by non-communicable diseases (NCDs) such as hypertension, diabetes, and stress-related conditions. This suggests that awareness initiatives, through schools, social media, and public health campaigns, may be having a positive impact.

Question 2: Do you believe schools and colleges do enough to educate students about long-term health and prevention of NCDs?

- Yes: 0%
- No: 100%
- Undecided: 0%

All the participants unanimously (100%) believe that educational institutions are not doing enough to educate students about the prevention of non-communicable diseases. This highlights a major gap in health education systems, suggesting an urgent need for integrated, age-appropriate health awareness programs within the educational structures.

Question 3: Should junk food advertisements be regulated in the same way as tobacco or alcohol to reduce NCDs?

- Yes: 75%
- No: 25%
- Undecided: 0%



A majority (75%) support strict regulation of junk food ads, similar to tobacco and alcohol, to curb NCDs, indicating strong backing for tighter marketing controls. However, the others (25%) disagreed, viewing it more as a matter of personal choice than public health.

Question 4: Do you believe high-income countries have a greater responsibility to support NCD prevention in lower-income countries?

- Yes: 100%
- No: 0%
- Undecided: 0%

All participants (100%) agreed that high-income countries hold greater responsibility in supporting NCD prevention in lower-income nations. This reflects a shared belief in global accountability, with suggestions like funding screening programs or sharing expertise through initiatives such as WHO PEN initiative.

Question 5: Do you think low- and middle-income countries receive enough global support to fight NCDs?

- Yes: 50%
- No: 50%
- Undecided: 0%

The responses to whether low- and middle-income countries receive enough global support to combat NCDs were evenly split. While half the participants (50%) felt international aid and partnerships were sufficient, the other half (50%) believed current efforts fall short.

All respondents agreed that today's youth are aware of the risks of NCDs such as hypertension, diabetes, and stress-related illness. This reflects widespread awareness, likely driven by digital media and public campaigns, though awareness alone may not guarantee preventive action.

When asked if schools and colleges adequately educate students about long-term

health and NCD prevention, the response was unanimously “No” highlighting a clear gap in formal health education.

On regulating junk food advertisements like tobacco and alcohol, 75% supported stricter controls, especially to shield youth from unhealthy influences. The remaining 25% raised concerns about personal choice and market freedom.

To the question of whether high-income countries have a greater responsibility to support NCD prevention in low- and middle-income countries, all respondents said “Yes” reflecting strong consensus on shared global responsibility and the need for resource-rich nations to step up.

On whether schools and colleges do enough to educate students about NCDs, the response was unanimously “No.” Delegates pointed to a clear gap in formal education, calling for better health education in academic curricula.

When asked if low- and middle-income countries receive enough global support to fight NCDs, responses were evenly split. While some felt support exists, others saw it as insufficient, highlighting the need for greater transparency and efficiency in global health aid.

Overall, the poll reveals an informed and engaged committee. Delegates agree on the urgency of awareness, education, and international cooperation in addressing the global burden of non-communicable diseases, even if strategies may vary.



Indian Parliament



Jay Khandelwal

A seasoned MUNer and accomplished speaker. As House Captain and core organiser of UNWIND, he brings strong leadership, event coordination, and youth engagement experience.

IP

The Dhaka-Delhi Pulse



“ Jay Khandelwal, reporting from the Indian Parliament(IP)”

The Dhaka-Delhi Pulse is an opinion poll investigation gauging public sentiments, perceptions, and priorities as India and Bangladesh navigate a changing relationship. The poll has utilized responses from 20 respondents and examined themes of bilateral cooperation, regional stability, and the interdependence of India and Bangladesh at an important moment for both countries and the region as a whole.

Question 1: Should India reduce dependence on informal diplomacy and institutionalize long-term cooperation mechanisms with Bangladesh?

- **Yes:** 71%
- **No:** 13%
- **Not Sure:** 16%.

The findings reveal that most respondents (71%) believe India should move on from informal diplomacy and formalize long-term cooperation with Bangladesh, which shows strong support for a formal, stable, and transparent diplomatic structure. Furthermore, 13% preferred the choice and adaptability that informal relationships provide to deal with sensitive matters versus 16% that were unsure. The engagement between citizens of India and Bangladesh reflects a growing citizen desire for structured engagement for lasting peace and

consistent accountability for future joint progress.

Question 2: Should India actively support Bangladesh's request for international climate financing, given its shared ecological vulnerabilities?

- **Yes:** 63%
- **No:** 14%
- **Not Sure:** 23%

The solid majority (63%) support India's backing of Bangladesh's appeal for international climate financing, indicating recognition of common ecological threats like rising sea level and unpredictable monsoons. By contrast, 14% were opposed—most likely because they had their own climate priorities regarding urgent action—and 23% were unsure, indicating ambivalence about India's global role. All told, the results capture a growing realization of climate change requiring cross-border cooperation and position India as a potential regional climate partner willing to take a shared stance for the sake of environmental resilience.

Question 3: Do you believe India-Bangladesh ties are crucial in maintaining peace and resisting extremism in South Asia?

- **Yes:** 78%
- **No:** 9%
- **Not Sure:** 13%

The overwhelming 78% of respondents believe that India-Bangladesh relations are very important to maintaining peace and resisting extremism in South Asia and indicate strong public confidence in the region co-operating. While 9% of respondents disagreed—who may favour a more independent posture—and another 13% were unsure, indicating some uncertainty about the paths from diplomacy to security. Ultimately, this data represents a strong conviction that the partnership and continued dialogue between the two countries is vital to resilience and stability across the region.

Question 4: Should India formally propose a trilateral dialogue mechanism between India, Bangladesh, and Myanmar to address Rohingya repatriation and refugee issues?

- **Yes:** 48%
- **No:** 34%
- **Not Sure:** 18%

A slight majority (48%) support India making a formal proposal for a trilateral dialogue with Bangladesh and Myanmar regarding the Rohingya repatriation, displaying an understanding of India's potential role in mediation in the region as a proactive facilitator. The public was divided, with 34% being opposed, and 18% indicated they were unsure; and they balanced around concerns over diplomatic sensitivities and political complexities with an awareness of the urgency of the humanitarian crisis for the Rohingya people. Nonetheless, the indication of support for the complex trilateral proposal shows that there is a belief in the necessity of regional cooperation, even on contentious issues, and that this is possible.

Question 5: Do you believe India and Bangladesh can emerge as a joint economic engine for eastern South Asia in the next two decades?

- **Yes:** 52%
- **No:** 21%
- **Not Sure:** 27%

A relative majority (52%) indicated their belief that India and Bangladesh have the potential to be a joint economic engine for eastern South Asia, owing to their comparable geography, supplemental markets, and increasing trade links, while 21% expressed doubt around infrastructure deficits, a history of political discord, and disparities in economic structures, and 27% thought converting vision to policy would be problematic overall. The findings do seem to capture a cautious optimism that regional co-operation, rather than competition, could drive mutual growth in a coming global landscape.

The numbers speak for themselves: a large majority feel that India needs to move away from informal diplomacy and start institutionalising co-operations with Bangladesh on a long-term basis. Having similar threats from climate change with security concerns of their own, both India and Bangladesh cannot simply act reactively or short-term on partnership. The public now days sees that short term institutional cooperation will not make South Asia peaceful, prosperous and resilient, whereas bold, far-sighted initiatives would. From climate finance issues to refugee discussions, it is high time India acts with intent instead of diffusing vulnerability.

Rivers of Unity, Bridges of Hope: India and Bangladesh



“Jay Khandelwal, reporting from the Indian Parliament”

The story of India and Bangladesh is more than a tale of shared boundaries, it is written in the ink of 1971, shaded by the shadows of Partition, and redrawn through diplomacy, trade, migration, and strategy. The advent of India-Bangladesh relations started with a simple gesture and an implicit need to lend India's solidarity to the Bangladesh freedom movement. Following independence in March 1971, the initial four years were marked by cooperation, as both nations signed the *Indo-Bangladesh Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Peace* in 1972. India was one of the first countries to establish economic ties by extending aid and supporting Bangladesh's reconstruction. The Indo-Bangladesh Trade Agreement was signed in the same year to lay down the foundation for bilateral commerce, and also granting *Bangladesh Most Favoured Nation(MFN)* status under *WTO* norms in 1996 due to which Bangladesh began to seek greater market access in India.

The situation that led India to extend its support to the Bangladesh Liberation movement was the massive influx of refugees from East Pakistan into India after the Pakistani military crackdown, and where India became the moral and strategic backbone of Bangladesh's liberation movement by granting refuge to nearly 10 million displaced people that ultimately led to the birth of Bangladesh.

Today, India and Bangladesh find themselves at a unique juncture. Both nations are now faced with the threat of strained relations. India's *“look east policy”* and *“neighbourhood first policy”* have long been seen by Bangladesh as unequal treatment or big-brother syndrome, especially in areas of trade imbalances and water sharing.

A major source of contention between the two nations has been the River Teesta. It serves as an important river for both India and Bangladesh, and is a vital source of water for irrigation, fisheries, and drinking water. Rising in the Himalayas, it flows through Sikkim and West Bengal before joining the Brahmaputra in Assam and the Jamuna in Bangladesh, and is shared by India and Bangladesh. This is singularly the most controversial topic between the two neighbours.

The flow of the river into Bangladesh during the lean season is the main point of contention between India and Bangladesh. Hundreds of thousands of people's livelihoods are impacted by the river, which drains 2,800 square kilometres of Bangladesh and flows through the floodplains of Sikkim.

A deal for equitable distribution was put forth in 1983, but the execution ran into difficulties. Bangladesh has been asking for 50% of the water supply from December to March, while India has been asking for 55%. The inability to sign a deal had political repercussions for the nation, placing PM Sheikh Hasina's party in a difficult position.

Another source of friction, India's reliance on Bangladesh for Northeast access raises sovereignty concerns in Dhaka, while India

fears strategic invasion if ties deteriorate. While current cooperation has reduced tensions, the corridor lies shrouded with latent mistrust that could unveil with ugly consequences. Hence, it requires consistent and careful diplomacy

India-Bangladesh ties have quietly grown into one of South Asia's most consequential relationships. On a global level, the partnership exemplifies how regional cooperation can evolve beyond historical conflicts into a mutually beneficial strategic alignment. India-Bangladesh relations have evolved quietly to become one of the paramount conjoining issues in South Asia. From trade corridors, transnational energy grids, climate resilience, or counter-terrorism: maintaining a coherent and cooperative Indian and Bangladeshi dynamic is critical for the world powers that have stakes in the Indo-Pacific, such as the US, EU, or ASEAN, to keep balance in a competitive environment increasingly turning on China's growing economic and naval influence.

But the exit of the Hasina government has, in a way, injected a certain amount of uncertainty into a relationship, which swagged along so steadily on cooperation in issues of transit, security, and connectivity. Although the recent signals from Dhaka are somewhat disturbing, yet therein really lies an opportunity. The two nations must thereby find a way to transcend the transactional level of diplomacy and work toward building trust, shared prosperity, and a vision-based partnership to define a stable future. India has to approach Dhaka more as a partner, equally vested in a peaceful and prosperous Bay of Bengal, and less as a benefactor. Bangladesh, conversely, must shed this grasp of regional posturing and rise to the strategic maturity it has duly earned over a decade.

In conclusion, India-Bangladesh relations now stand at a threshold—not of rupture, but of reckoning. The fall of a familiar government may unsettle old assurances, but it also invites both nations to rise above leader-centric diplomacy and craft a relationship rooted in institutions, people, and purpose.



International Criminal Court



Vyapti Patro

Accomplished MUNer with accolades including Outstanding Delegate (SOCHUM, OxfordMUN India 2024) and UNCA Rapporteur (SAIMUN 2024). Former Secretary of UNWIND 2024 and long-time Student Council member. Deeply interested in psychology, diplomacy, and international relations.

ICC

Day 93



“Vyapti Patro, Rapporteur of the International Criminal Court, provides insight into the mind of a teenager stuck in a war-zone area through a diary entry”

It's day 93. I counted the tallies on the broken tablet under the cracked sidewalk near our tent, it counted to 93. That's a big number. This means that we've hidden in this region for exactly 25 days, longer than the other places we were hiding under. One got hit by shelling. The others by missiles. Sadly, about 4 of them had become somewhat of a home for me.

I don't even know why I've chosen to document the worst year of my life. Maybe it was because of the book I read last year, 'Anne Frank's Diary.' I guess it inspired me.

I was to start 11th grade this year before the war broke out. Unfortunately, belonging to a very penniless family meant that help would

arrive much later. It meant that we would not be evacuating as soon as some of the others from Kyiv.

This war has been so gruesome, I don't even feel capable of being in pain anymore. I'm just numb now. The first time I felt this numbness was when my cousin Yana was taken. The horror and pain on my Uncle Borys and Aunt Alina's faces was heartbreaking to watch, and yet, I couldn't feel anything after that moment. It felt like an out-of-body experience, like I was somehow watching everything go down from a TV screen rather than my own eyes.

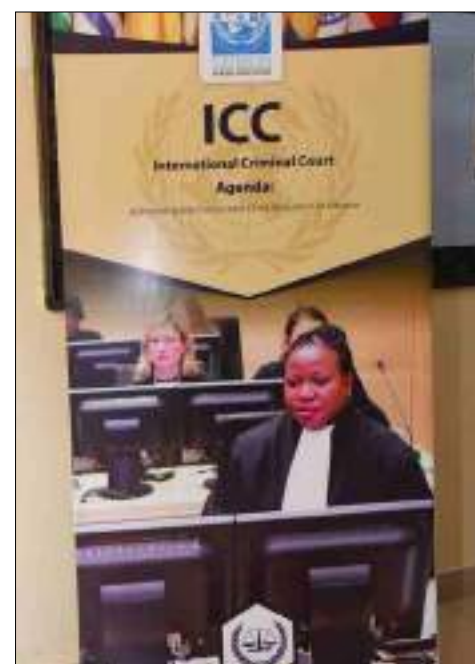
We found out later that Yana had been deported to Russia, which meant only one thing. The Ukrainian was going to be beaten out of her. She was about to lose her identity, the identity that connected her to her family, the identity that connected her to me.

Oh my dear Yana, I hope that she's not starving at least.

Dad's face has become unreadable. He is so scared to lose me and Dotty that he won't even let us go search for water without him. That reminds me, I don't exactly remember when we last drank water. Maybe it was last Wednesday when we found the swampy mud trail near Uncle Borys's hideout. I wonder if Dad will find some today. I hope so because I don't think our rationed food supply will last even 3 days.

God, if you can hear me through this parchment, please give us some water, for Dad's sake at least. I think he's losing hope.

Olena



The Forced Russification of Ukrainian Children

“Vyapti Patro, Rapporteur of the International Criminal Court, illuminates the circumstances of the Ukrainian children”

A question that ponders the minds of many is that of a parent's nightmare. What is the most horrid and cruel thing you could put a parent through? The answer is heartbreaking. Your child dying before you; this is a punishment I would not put even on my worst enemy. Yet, in many regions, political leaders commit the harshest of crimes and watch parents go through the jarring battle with reality, the feeling of losing their child. Whether through death or forced separation, the pain is just as difficult.

Ukraine is losing its people to missiles and russification. The War Crimes which have taken place here are endless, deliberate attacks on civilian targets, torture, murder, rape and abduction of civilians, indiscriminate attacks on densely-populated regions, forced deportations, annexation of cultural heritage and, murder and torture of Ukrainian Prisoners of War. Russia has shown a blatant lack of regard for international humanitarian law. The extreme acts of violence committed against Ukraine stand in direct violation of the United Nations Charter, the Geneva Conventions, and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC).

And yet, perhaps the abduction and russification of children in particular has been one of the cruellest consequences of the war. Children are being kidnapped and forcefully adopted into Russian families, siblings are being separated, and children are being forced into becoming Russian Citizens.

Kateryna Rashevskaya, a legal expert at the Regional Centre for Human Rights, reported that Russian Federation agents have taken at least 19,546 children to Russia from Ukraine since February 18th, 2022. Russian citizenship has been imposed on them, and they are forbidden to speak or learn the Ukrainian language or preserve their Ukrainian Identity.

The Yale Humanitarian Research Lab has identified 314 individual children from Ukraine who have been placed in Russia's systematic program of coerced adoption and fostering following the full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, with 148 being listed in Russia's database, 67 or more naturalised as Russian citizens since entering the custody of Russia. 66.2% of the 314 children have been identified as originating from Ukraine, have either been adopted by or placed in Russian families or have had citizens of Russia assigned as their Guardians.



As badly as Russia would like for the world to believe that this is a humanitarian act of assistance, an act to 'save' children, the truth stands in its way because this is not a rescue mission. This is the reprogramming of Ukraine's future, this is a tactic being used to destroy any chance that the country may hold to reshape itself as a nation after the war is over. This is a direct systematic erasure of Ukrainian identity and future.

As of 17 March 2023, Pre-Trial Chamber II of the International Criminal Court has issued warrants of arrest for two individuals in light of the circumstances in Ukraine: Mr Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin, the President of Russia, and Ms Maria Alekseyevna Lvova-Belova, Commissioner for Children's Rights in the Office of the President of the Russian Federation, for

being responsible for the war crime of 'unlawful deportation of population and that of unlawful transfer of population from occupied areas of Ukraine to the Russian Federation, in prejudice of Ukrainian children.' The seriousness of the crimes committed is highlighted by this legal action, yet legal acknowledgment is insufficient on its own.

It is time for the world to act; these children should not go down in history as statistics. These children must be given the future that they deserve, a future in which they get to practise and profess their identity and language, a future in which their world is not burning to bits. We mustn't turn our backs on these children, we mustn't remain silent, because silence is complacency.



United Nations Children's Fund



**Akankshya
Panigrahi**

Demonstrated leadership and organisational skills as Director of Advertisement, UNWIND 2024, and through Student Council roles. Advocates inclusivity as a member of Team Touchpress, creators of a manual Braille printer for visually impaired children.

UNICEF

Hidden Shun: Drawing The Curtains on Child Safety On The Web



"Akankshya Panigrahi reporting from the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)"

We live in a digitalized world that has directed us into unlimited information and different forms of mass communication. It has also exposed adults and minors alike to significant online risks. The late 20th century was a witness to a sudden rise in internet users, which was quickly followed by major developments in the opportunities in the learning and socialization sectors found on the 'web'. However, this expansion did not bring about only positive outcomes. But it also came with an alarming increase in online bullying and exploitation.

Concerned with the rising incidence of cyberbullying, various legislative measures were introduced. For example, the U.S. adopted their 'Child Online Protection Act of 1998'. It dealt with minors and their 'unlimited' access to harmful material found online. Although this particular act was received with much scrutiny and underwent massive legal challenges and was ultimately blocked. Following COPA 1998, many others protested against the unrestricted use of online services and seconded the need for protective measures in the digital realm.

If we were to talk about a more recent step on preventing cyberbullying, the 'Kids Online Safety Act of 2022' would first come to mind. It was instituted to address the many

destructive effects that social media has on minors' mental health and safety. The whole act was woven around certain revelations that were made from a Facebook whistleblower.

International organisations like UNICEF AND the UN have advocated for children's safety in online platforms. In the current scenario, we have social media guidelines and legal laws that protect us from different forms of cyber harassment. Yet, the number of victims of such heinous crimes hasn't gone down.

The increase in minors and their presence on media platforms is fuelled by widespread "laxity" in access and use of smartphones and the internet. It sequentially heightened the exposure kids have to a large number of serious digital threats.

Further, a poll conducted by UNICEF revealed that over a third of our younger population in 20 countries experience cyberbullying daily. One in every six victims of cases also reported skipping school due to the severity of the mental toll that such incidents have on young minds.

On a different note, the eminent prevalence of online sexual exploitation is also very disturbing. According to studies, 75% of children in over 20 countries report feeling threatened by the possibility of sexual abuse and exploitation online.

The COVID pandemic further aggravated these issues by intensifying screen time for almost all minors "who", due to online schooling and socialising, weren't left with much choice. This shift negligently presented itself with more opportunities for the perpetrator to cyberbully. What is more alarming is if we, as a society, fail to address how online exploitation and cyberbullying can have dire consequences.

As mentioned above, we are all well aware that being cyberbullied can pose significant risks to a person's mental health and overall well-being. Victims of such traumatic

experiences often report suffering from serious conditions like depression, panic attacks, and self-esteem issues. A study in Nepal observed that adolescents who were victims of cyberbullying had increased odds of experiencing high levels of stress and anxiety as compared to non-victims.

Even in the field of academics, the effects are equally concerning. Social media crimes are often associated with problems such as having trouble concentrating, grades dropping, and bunking class. Studies insinuate that students who have suffered from social media harassment are more likely to stay absent from classes due to feeling unsafe, which in turn affects their academic performance.

The consequences of cyberbullying stretch beyond individuals. Many Government institutions and tech firms face legal suits and cases, which leave them stained with reputational damage when they fail to protect the kids of the net.

For instance, in the case of Seattle Public School in the U.S, they filed a lawsuit against platforms such as TikTok and Instagram, accusing them of playing key roles in the mental health crisis among the users of said apps, who largely consisted of underage kids.

Moreover, unregulated exposure to harmful content normalises dangerous behaviours among youth. Like in the Netflix show Adolescence, where a thirteen-year-old boy, James, is first presented as a victim of cybercrimes. He isn't someone who reaches out, but instead, bottles it up. Until one day, he takes it out on one of his 'bullies', a young girl, and is then arrested shortly.

This story isn't fiction. Cases of misogyny, racism and homophobia have increased among children who have access to unlimited internet information. The problem here is that much of this information comes from unverified sites that groom kids to think a particular way.

Psychologists warn us that exposure to information can lead to the adoption of practices that underscore the need for stricter social media regulation. For now, all we can say for certain is that, with advocacy, adaptability, and insight, no victim of cyberbullying will have to face the world alone, and the perpetrators will one day pay for their crimes.



The Masked Bully

“Akankshya Panigrahi, reporting from the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)”

Long gone are the days,
When echoes of laughter and glee could be heard,
From the playgrounds of our towns,
Upsettingly replaced with incessant dings of the browsers.

Long gone are the days,
When those browsers were portals for learning,
Now transmuted into cages of a dark reality.

Long gone are the days,
When adolescent life thrived with trampolines,
Jumping and sprinkler runs are now switched into endless
counts of likes, shares and follows,
And it all departed without a whisper,
Leaving those innocent souls with fear, terror and dismay.

In the quiet hum of a glowing screen,
Words are typed-sharp and uninvited,
Aiming at a heart, a heart, so vulnerable, a heart so faint.

Those ruthless words pierced deeply into the skin,
Thus, it hurts a soul, a soul so young and naive.
And as time goes on, thoughts spiral into a chaos of self-
doubt,
Asking questions while tearing oneself apart.

And the digital realm transforms into a battleground,
One which immobilises the other,
and the other has no weapons to retribute,

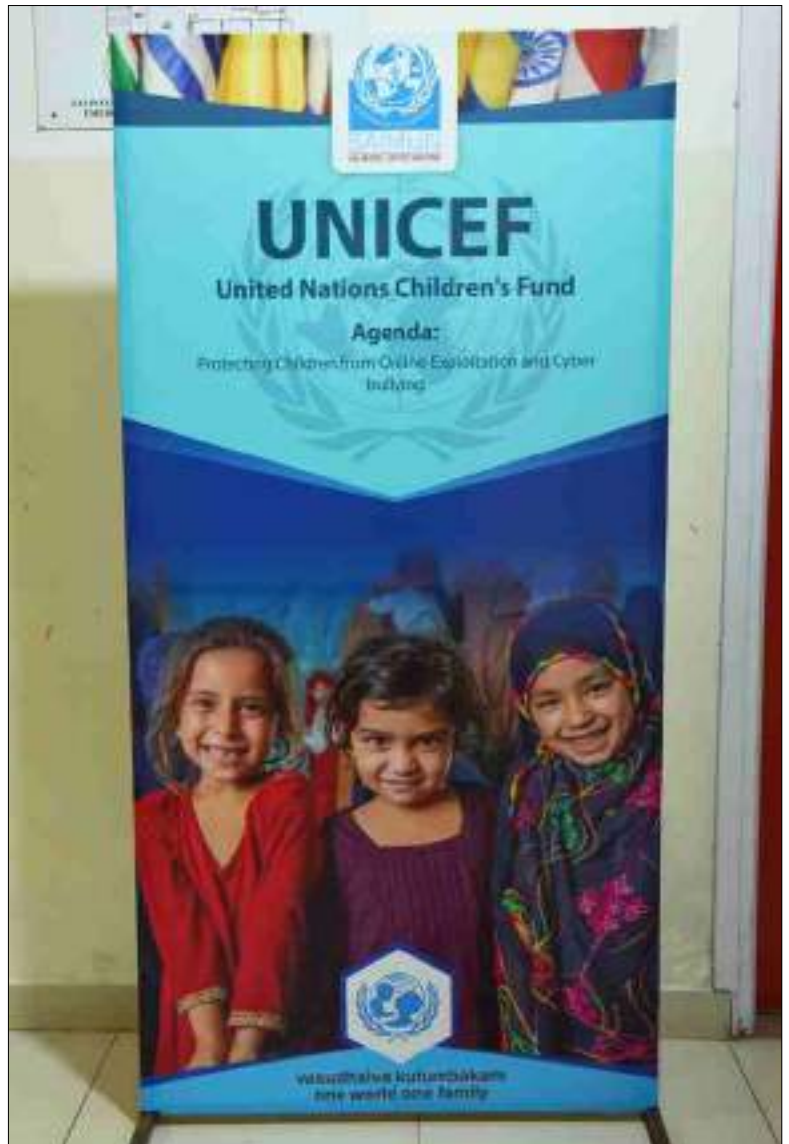
Drops of fresh, cold tears flow down,
No longer a favourite toy,
But to escape from the terror of it all,
The wings which flew so high up in the sky,
Without a care for the world,
It is now tied so tightly that escape seems like wishful
thinking,
Abandoned are now the dreams which were conceived in
one since birth,
The heart now filled with an unstoppable ache of fear and
uncertainty.

And as the world spins around, they seek to find peace,
Pieces of them lay scattered, waiting to be put together,
waiting to feel whole.

Just like that, we stare into the digital expanse,
Longing for a day when a screen might fade, for the world
to feel less alone.

But as they always said, happiness can be found even in
the darkest of times if one remembers to
Turn on the light,

So as long as there's light,
The darkest of nights will cease to exist,
Compassion will heal the wounds, which time cannot,
And there will come a day when cruelty will be silenced
and empathy will reign.





International Press Corps



Aditi Agrawal

An experienced IP correspondent and photojournalist with accolades across seven MUNs. Former Secretary of SAITED 2024. Skilled in storytelling, media strategy, and modern design. Passionate about impactful journalism and clear communication.

IPC

Narrative Control: When Power Replaces Truth



“Aditi Agrawal, covering for the International Press Corps (IPC)”

In an age where stories are crafted in the moment and facts are pitted against fiction, the truth has become a war zone. State-sponsored disinformation agenda and its effect on press freedom is not merely a media crisis, it's a political one unfolding in broad daylight.

Governments everywhere are no longer limiting themselves to control narratives. They are actively shaping them, employing state media, bot networks, and controlled platforms to confuse fact and fiction. What used to resemble propaganda in wartime pamphlets now surfaces as tweets, altered video, and headline manipulation, quick, focused, and perilous.

Disinformation is nothing new. But what alarms us today is how much of a role the state plays, how routinely critics are silenced. Like in India, Journalists like Siddique Kappan and Mohammed Zubair faced legal action and in Russia, Protests against the war in Ukraine met with mass arrests, the media are trapped in a vice: accused of peddling misinformation when they report facts, and bullied when they speak truth to power.

The statistics only tell part of the tale. “Reporters Without Borders” reckons that over 70% of nations curtail press freedom to some extent. Yet the experience on the ground is bleaker still: journalists in prison, media outlets raided, websites censored, and public confidence worn down incrementally by disinformation disseminated wholesale by those at the top.

Primarily negative, often on purpose.

In most instances, disinformation is not just a byproduct of governance, it's a tactic. In war zones, it's employed to legitimise violence. In elections, it's employed to mislead voters, while in authoritarian regimes, it's employed as an excuse to rewrite history and close off opposition.

Look at Myanmar, where orchestrated hate campaigns online ravaged the Rohingya, or China's tight grip, where state media dictates both internal and external opinion. Even in democratic systems, legal instruments designed to combat disinformation are used instead to target journalists.

As the state spreads falsehoods, it simultaneously delegitimises independent media. The result? Public trust in journalism falls. Audiences become unsure of whom to believe. And in that confusion, truth itself becomes irrelevant; only power remains.

This is not limited to autocracies. Even in democracies, “fake news” is used to deny uncomfortable journalism. Anti-disinformation legislation, poorly defined, becomes more and more a pretext for journalists to be detained or publications closed down. The impact is wide-ranging: a weaker civil society, a disoriented public, and a struggling media ecosystem.

It's simple to complain that we require better fact-checking or tougher laws, yet the issue goes deeper. Governments must not view the press as an adversary. Freedom of information journalism has to be safeguarded, legally, financially, and institutionally.

Education is a significant part of it as well. Media literacy must be developed so citizens can distinguish between spin and reality. And the global community must hold states accountable when they attack the press or broadcast disinformation at scale.

The battle against falsehood has never been more difficult. But it's also never been more necessary. When governments disseminate propaganda and muzzle the media, they don't merely target journalism, they target democracy itself. The pen may remain mightier than the sword, but only if it can continue to write.



The Double-Edged Narrative: When Truth Fights to Breathe

"Aditi Agrawal, writing for the International Press Corps (IPC)"

It starts silently.

A message remains unread. A newsroom grows silent. A reporter fails to come home.

No alarm. No headline. Only absence.

In a world where the war is no longer fought with bullets, but with words, truth itself is at the frontlines, and it's losing.

We speak often of "state-sponsored disinformation" as if it's a distant plague, infecting only closed-off countries ruled by iron fists. But as it's shown that the effects in places that proudly call themselves democracies. Places where newspapers still print, but their pages are thinner. Where journalists still speak, but lower their voices.

Today's disinformation does not necessarily resemble propaganda posters or forged broadcasts. Sometimes, it's a selectively edited half-truth broadcast during prime time. A photo altered to remove a protest. A headline was toned down just so to stay out of trouble. And sometimes, it's silence, a silence arranged by those who are afraid of what honest journalism exposes.

And isn't that what is occurring around the globe?

From India to Iran, from Egypt to even some areas of Europe, the room for free press is closing, not always with brute force, but with subtle, systematic pressure. Like in Egypt, The government has revoked press accreditations and has been criticized for fostering a climate of media censorship, as seen in the cancellation of 167 journalists' accreditations in 2024 and in Iran, Since the 2022 protests, Iran has intensified its repression, with at least 226 cases of journalists facing detention, trials, or legal action between 2023 and 2024.. Laws that criminalize so-called 'fake news' are often wielded not to protect the public from misinformation, but to suppress dissent, silence criticism, and tighten state control over narratives. In the name of truth, they end up stifling it. Journalists face surveillance, censorship curtails reporting, and factual information is increasingly portrayed as a security threat. We prefer to think that democracies advocate for their press teams. But reach out to the families of whistleblowers and imprisoned reporters and ask them if ideals were sufficient to protect them.

And it's not just the state anymore, the war has gone online. The Big Tech, once celebrated as a saviour of voices, now acts as a gatekeeper. Algorithms determine whose truth is visible, whose is hidden. Voices that don't make money patterns vanish in a scroll. And when platforms collude with



governments in the name of "content moderation," truth becomes a commercial decision.

Meanwhile, actual humans are harmed.

In Afghanistan, access to newspapers has been denied to the girls, along with the opportunity to attend school. In Gaza, reporters risk everything to livestream the atrocities that other people try to suppress. In Sudan, accounts are smuggled out like contraband. In the Philippines, journalists live with death threats and lawsuits like background noise.

So when we talk about "press freedom" let's not make it into a number. Let's keep in mind the faces, the 22-year-old freelance reporter in Yangon who stashed his memory card in his sock. The mother in Tehran who

discovered her daughter was arrested because her last story went viral. The editor in Mexico who had to leave in the dead of night, they lost more than a job, they lost a life they built. Truth has never been at greater risk and never more necessary.

We need to end our denial that only tyrannical regimes propagate misinformation, and that freedom of the press is entirely secure with liberal democracies. Both are delusions that allow power to go unaccounted for.

Because every time we overlook a muffled voice, we sacrifice more than a narrative.

In doing so, we deny ourselves the chance to truly understand.

We lose the truth.



KINDRED KALEIDOSCOPE



A Tapestry of Culture and Unity: - *Global Village at SAIMUN 2025*

Sara Anwita, Editor-in-Chief of SAIMUN 2025, captures the spirit of cultural harmony and global camaraderie that sets SAIMUN apart through its flagship event, the Global Village.



The Mahatma Gandhi Atrium once again came alive with vibrant energy and cultural celebration as SAIMUN 2025 hosted its eagerly awaited Global Village. This flagship event of the conference brought together delegates, international guests, faculty advisors, and student representatives for an afternoon that celebrated global diversity and unity. The event commenced with an elegant opening address by Binati Mishra, International Activities Co ordinator SAI International Educational Group, who warmly welcomed the assembly and set the stage for an immersive and inspiring cultural experience.

The cultural journey began with a spirited presentation by delegates from Qatar. Their performance brought forth the essence of Qatari heritage—an enchanting blend of tradition and modernity. Through their display of music, movement, and attire, the delegates offered a rare glimpse into the vibrant life of the Gulf nation, captivating the audience and setting a high bar for the celebrations that followed.

Next, the stage was graced by a collective

cultural presentation from SAIMUN's esteemed international guests representing Liberia, Madagascar, Zimbabwe, Sudan, Ethiopia, Rwanda, South Sudan, Kenya, Tanzania, Nigeria, Uganda, Syria, Zambia, Bangladesh, and Nepal. This powerful ensemble offered a dazzling showcase of cross-continental traditions, rich with rhythm, color, and storytelling. From African drum beats to South Asian melodies, the segment reflected the shared human spirit and the beautiful variety of global heritage. Each nation brought forward unique elements of their culture—dance forms, traditional attire, and symbolic gestures—that echoed the conference's enduring commitment to global friendship and intercultural dialogue.

The spirit of unity was further reinforced by the Going Global students, who represented India through a dynamic cultural tableau. Their presentation seamlessly interwove the vast traditions of India into a performance that was both deeply rooted and forward-looking. With a masterful display of dance, music, and symbolism, they paid homage to

the cultural mosaic of India, while also embracing the values of inclusivity and global cooperation that SAIMUN stands for.

The event concluded with a gracious Vote of Thanks delivered by Anu Kakar, Head of Global Dimension at SAI International Education Group. Her heartfelt address acknowledged the remarkable contributions of all participants and the collaborative spirit that defined the day. She highlighted the Global Village as a cornerstone of SAIMUN's mission to foster empathy, understanding, and global citizenship among youth.

In retrospect, the Global Village at SAIMUN 2025 was more than a celebration—it was a manifestation of international harmony, a living portrait of unity in diversity. The event not only delighted attendees but also reaffirmed SAIMUN's commitment to building bridges across cultures. It left an indelible mark on all present, setting a renewed benchmark for future editions of this cross-cultural exchange.

Echoes of Humanity: *SAIMUN'S Commitment to Social Justice*

*Sara Anwita, Editor-in-Chief of SAIMUN 2025
delineates the corporate social responsibility activities of SAIMUN*



As part of its ongoing commitment to social responsibility and global citizenship, the SAI Model United Nations (SAIMUN) 2025 conference proudly conducted a meaningful Community Outreach initiative on July 25, 2025, at Jewels International (Chetana Institute for the Empowerment of Persons with Intellectual Disability), Bhubaneswar. Spearheaded by SAI International School, the project brought together forty international delegates alongside students and teachers from the Interact Club (Rotary International Club) and Going Global Club (International Activity Club) for a heartwarming and impactful engagement.

The visit was a testament to the transformative power of empathy, inclusion, and shared humanity. Designed as a joyful and interactive session with the children and young adults supported by the institute, the initiative celebrated the beauty of human connection beyond boundaries of ability, culture, or nationality. The beneficiaries of Jewels International are individuals with intellectual disabilities who receive support through therapeutic and skill-based learning programmes—programmes that empower them to lead fulfilling and dignified lives.

At the heart of the engagement was a vibrant palm-print activity, where all participants came together to create a mural of coloured handprints on a wall-mounted canvas. This collective artwork, symbolising hope, unity, and shared dreams, was not only a creative expression but also a powerful metaphor for inclusivity. Each handprint stood as a visual testament to the bonds formed during the interaction—bridging diverse cultures through a single, unified gesture of love and solidarity.

Adding to the cheerful atmosphere, the children were invited to showcase their talents in front of the delegates and students. Their enthusiasm and confidence lit up the room, creating moments of profound joy and pride. This was followed by a balloon-bursting game, specially curated to bring smiles, laughter, and a sense of playful achievement to the young participants. The event, alive with music, applause, and spontaneous laughter, underscored the importance of creating inclusive spaces where every individual feels valued and celebrated.

More than just a social visit, this initiative reflected SAIMUN's unwavering belief in

the power of compassionate engagement. The international delegates had the opportunity to step outside the formalities of diplomacy and into a space of emotional learning and human connection. It was an experience that resonated deeply with all involved, reinforcing the vital values of empathy, patience, and mutual respect.

For the students of SAI International School's Interact and Going Global Clubs, the event was a chance to translate the ideals of service and global understanding into tangible action. It nurtured within them a sense of active responsibility toward creating a more inclusive world—one that recognises and uplifts the abilities of every individual, regardless of circumstance.

In conclusion, the CSR initiative at SAIMUN 2025 stood as a poignant reminder of what it truly means to be a global citizen—not merely through dialogue or debate, but through genuine action that touches lives. It was an afternoon marked by colours, smiles, and unforgettable connections. As the delegates departed, they carried with them not just memories, but a renewed commitment to building a more compassionate and inclusive global society.

Cultural Exchange at Kala Bhoomi: *International Delegates Experience Odisha's Rich Traditions*



As part of SAIMUN 2025, international delegates and visiting teachers from India and abroad visited Kala Bhoomi to gain a profound understanding of Odisha's rich and diverse culture. The museum's extensive collection of traditional crafts and artifacts beautifully narrated Odisha's artistic heritage, from intricate handloom textiles to exquisite terracotta and brassware. This visit

provided an opportunity for cultural exchange through interactions with local artisans, fostering mutual knowledge sharing. Delegates and teachers gained a deeper appreciation of Odisha's unique cultural identity, broadening their perspectives and enhancing their global awareness and sensitivity towards different cultures.





Voices from SAIMUN 2025

Dhawal Dwivedi, delegate in UNGA-DISEC from Rajkumar College, Raipur, shared:

“This is a completely new experience for me. It is the first MUN I have ever attended, and the atmosphere here is unlike anything I have seen before. My school emphasizes athletics more than activities like MUNs, so being here feels refreshing and, honestly, even better. I am enjoying it.”

Harshita Singh, delegate in UNICEF from Sunbeam School, Lahartara, shared:

“The MUN has been a great experience so far. The OC members are absolutely lovely and very helpful. Compared to my school, there are many more participants, and the curriculum here is incredibly engaging. Everyone is so kind and welcoming. This school offers far more opportunities for students. I am thrilled to be part of it.”

Arosmita Sahoo, delegate in the Indian Parliament from PM Shri School, Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Cuttack, shared:

“It has been a truly enjoyable experience. I have had a great opportunity to speak and express myself. Compared to my school, SAI International offers many more facilities and co-curricular activities. The opportunities here truly enhance the learning experience.”

Archismita Saha, delegate in UN-Women from DM School, shared:

“It has been a very positive experience. I am enjoying myself immensely and looking forward to more learning and interactions tomorrow. This is my first MUN, and what stands out about SAIMUN is its globally active platform. That is completely new for me, and I am excited to connect with people from different parts of the world.”

Nirvani Khanna, delegate in UNHCR from Shirdi Sai Public School, shared:

“It is my first time at a MUN, and it has been engaging so far. I am looking forward to enjoying even more as the sessions progress. The students here are incredibly helpful, respectful, and friendly. It feels great to be surrounded by such warm and welcoming people.”

Anirudh H, delegate in UNFCCC from Shree Niketan Pathshala, shared:

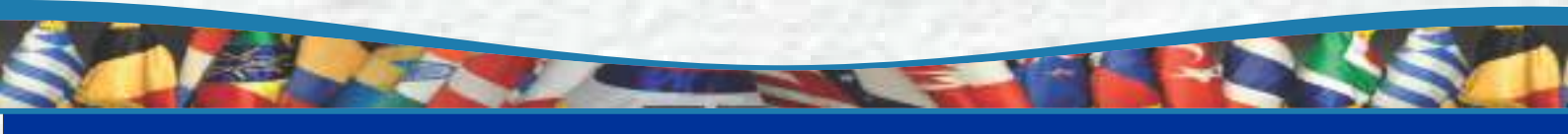
“SAIMUN offers meaningful exposure and is one of the best MUNs I have attended. The school culture is very warm and inclusive. Also, the food is fantastic!”

Mahek Mishra, delegate in the International Criminal Court (ICC) from Pinegrove School, Subathu, shared:

“The atmosphere at the school is genuinely different. There is a wonderful sense of support and encouragement here. What stands out is the hospitality, not just from the Organising Committee but from all students. It creates a truly welcoming and inclusive environment.”

Vihani Khanna, delegate in the World Health Organisation (WHO) from Shirdi Sai Public School, shared:

“It has been an amazing experience so far. The students here are so friendly and welcoming. What I truly appreciate is how helpful and patient everyone is. They are always willing to assist us without hesitation. It is very comforting.”



THE PRESSPECTIVE WATCHPOST



United Nations General Assembly - Disarmament and International Security Committee



Profits Over Peace: The US Arms Industry, the Second Amendment, and Their Global Consequences

Reyansh Sharma , Phayul

America has solidified its reputation as the world's top arms exporter; US arms sales abroad have reached all-time highs. Mainstream media frequently point out that by a wide margin, the US leads, exporting advanced weapons to NATO allies, Asian friends, and straight into trouble spots such as Ukraine. The US government brokered \$81 billion worth of arms sales directly in 2023 alone, a 56% increase from last year.

This hegemony has serious ethical implications. The readiness of the US to arm allies and unstable areas usually place profit and strategic interests above human rights.

The US Second Amendment that guarantees the right to bear arms is not only a domestic phenomenon. The US model of extensive civilian gun possession is most frequently brought up by pro-gun lobbies around the world, and it is extremely hard to regulate guns and curb violence. That the US has not been able to enact tougher gun control legislation sends a clear message to the world that individual rights as interpreted using the lens of the Second Amendment tend to gain the upper hand over shared security and human rights.



In regions long plagued by violence and weak governance, availability of arms, both legal and illegal, fuels cycles of conflict, displacement, and repression. Sophisticated weaponry is employed to crush opposition and minority rights; hence it's too well known in Tibet, where government security forces are adequately weaponized and enjoy impunity.

The proliferation of weapons has more profound implications for international security and human rights. Say, the existence of advanced weapons increases the threat of state repression of civilians, intrastate conflict, and suppression of dissidents. Authoritarian states use weapons imports to entrench power and quash opposition, while war zones witness prolonged violence and humanitarian crises.

International arms trade destabilizes international law and renders it more difficult to protect vulnerable populations. Transnational opaqueness and lack of accountability in the arms trade render it impossible to hold states and corporations liable for human rights abuses.



World arms sales are record highs, with the war in Ukraine being among the major drivers. US arms exports overseas reached a record \$238 billion in 2023, driven by purchases predominantly to countries within Europe and Ukraine. Poland, Germany, and the Czech Republic have bought billions of dollars' worth of US military hardware, including fighter aircraft, missile defense systems, and tanks.

Ukraine itself has been prioritized. Western nations have provided over \$250 billion in military, humanitarian, and economic assistance to Ukraine since the Russian invasion started in February 2022. The US has shipped \$69 billion in military aid to Ukraine alone from 2022 to 2024, the highest contributor. This gigantic consignment of weapons has reoriented the military balances of Europe and deepened its reliance on US suppliers.

To sum everything up, the global arms trade, spearheaded by America and driven by the ideological influence of the US Second Amendment, has far-reaching implications on peace, security, and human rights. It perpetuates insecurity, is anathema to human rights, and diverts resources from social development.



United Nations Security Council



Tides of Hostility: Houthi Attacks and the Fractured Future of Red Sea Security

Payal Kumari , Xinhua News Agency

In the churned waters of the Red Sea, commercial vessels no longer sail freely ,they navigate through the specter of missile strikes, drone assaults, and geopolitical posturing. What was once a vital artery of global trade has become a flashpoint of regional turbulence and international anxiety. The agenda of Houthi attacks and Red Sea security is not merely a crisis of maritime logistics; it is the embodiment of a global order tested by asymmetric warfare, neglected conflicts, and a dangerous tolerance for chaos under the guise of sovereignty.

The Houthi movement's increasing militarization of the Red Sea cannot be divorced from the war that bred it. The roots stretch deep into Yemen's fractured history ,a proxy battleground shaped by the collapse of governance, Saudi-led coalition airstrikes, Iranian influence, and the failure of transitional political processes following the Arab Spring. What began as a domestic insurgency has evolved into a regional power projection tool, aided by sophisticated weaponry and sustained by international indifference.

The Red Sea's strategic importance cannot be overstated. It hosts the Bab el-Mandeb Strait which is a chokepoint through which nearly 12% of global trade flows. The Houthis' repeated targeting of commercial and military vessels in this corridor not only disrupts supply chains but signals a new chapter in hybrid maritime warfare: one where non-state actors dictate the terms of global transit. The implication is clear that is,no sea lane is immune, and no conflict is truly contained.

What makes this agenda alarmingly relevant now is its intersection with broader global fragilities. Rising oil prices, inflationary pressures, and the weaponization of trade routes threaten to trigger economic shockwaves far beyond the Middle East. These attacks do not just impact cargo,they undermine investor confidence, insurance stability, and energy security for millions. Moreover, the blurred lines between piracy, terrorism, and resistance raise deeply uncomfortable questions for the international legal system, which struggles to categorize and respond to such amorphous threats.

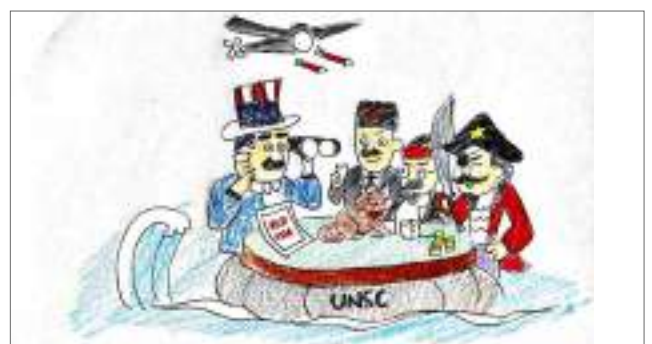
The international community's reactions whether its sporadic naval patrols, retaliatory airstrikes, and diplomatic condemnation have proven insufficient. These responses often treat the symptoms, not the disease. Without addressing Yemen's humanitarian catastrophe, power vacuum, and regional proxy dynamics, maritime escalation will persist. Meanwhile, the Houthis gain legitimacy among supporters as defenders against Western aggression, complicating efforts toward political reconciliation.

Failure to act decisively invites long-term global risks. It normalizes the use of key trade routes as leverage by armed groups, encourages replication in other volatile regions, and entrenches instability in a sea already vulnerable to climate change and illegal trafficking. On the other hand, over-militarization risks further escalation and civilian casualties, especially in a region teetering on humanitarian collapse. The balance between security enforcement and political resolution has never been more delicate or more urgent.



At stake is not only Red Sea security but the credibility of collective maritime governance. The Houthis have weaponized a geopolitical blind spot; the world must now choose whether to close it with violence or with vision. The agenda demands more than force ,it demands foresight. It compels the international community to reconsider how it defines security: not merely in terms of ships and straits, but in the dignity of people, the legitimacy of governance, and the structures that prevent conflicts from mutating into global crises.

We must not let the waters of the Red Sea become a reflection of the international system's own drift that is ,directionless, reactive, and complicit.



United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees



Relevance to UNHCR's Mandate: Disinformation, Media Suppression, and the Protection of Displaced Populations

State-sponsored disinformation and media suppression pose a growing threat not only to democratic values and civil liberties, but also to the fundamental rights and safety of refugees, asylum seekers, and stateless persons. Within the humanitarian framework of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the consequences of such deliberate manipulation of truth are far-reaching and deeply concerning. These dynamics undermine efforts to protect vulnerable populations, obscure the realities of displacement, and erode the global solidarity essential to refugee protection.

Disinformation is not merely a matter of public deception; it can be a direct cause of forced displacement. In many cases, governments deploy false narratives to vilify ethnic, religious, or political minorities, thereby manufacturing social hostility and justifying state-led persecution. These narratives create fertile ground for violence, scapegoating, and even ethnic cleansing. As truth is distorted or suppressed, the international community is often delayed in recognizing the gravity of unfolding crises. This time lost in verifying and responding to events allows abuses to escalate, ultimately forcing people to flee their homes. The original causes of displacement—systemic discrimination, armed conflict, state repression—become shrouded in propaganda, making humanitarian intervention more difficult and delayed.

Once refugees arrive in host countries, the impact of disinformation continues to shadow their lives. Xenophobic rhetoric and anti-refugee propaganda are often fueled by misinformation campaigns portraying refugees as economic burdens, criminals, or security threats. These narratives not only misrepresent the truth but actively foster environments of fear, hostility, and exclusion. Refugees—already stripped of home and legal protection—become the targets of discrimination, harassment, and even violence. Their access to basic services, fair employment, and community



integration becomes more restricted in societies influenced by these falsehoods.

Media suppression further compounds these challenges. When journalists reporting on refugee issues are censored, harassed, or silenced, the transparency vital to humanitarian protection is severely weakened. Human rights abuses go undocumented, narratives are monopolized by the state, and the global community remains unaware of the scale and urgency of crises. The ability to mobilize international support, raise awareness, and ensure

Media suppression further compounds these challenges. When journalists reporting on refugee issues are censored, harassed, or silenced, the transparency vital to humanitarian protection is severely weakened. Human rights abuses go undocumented, narratives are monopolized by the state, and the global community remains unaware of the scale and urgency of crises. The ability to mobilize international support, raise awareness, and ensure accountability is critically dependent on a free and independent press. Without it, refugee voices are drowned in silence and impunity flourishes.

Moreover, the flow of reliable information to refugees themselves is often obstructed. In displacement settings, where legal ambiguity and fear are constant, access to timely, accurate information is essential for making life-altering decisions—whether regarding asylum procedures, resettlement options, or rights in host countries. Many refugees are forced to rely on informal networks or unverified online sources, where disinformation is rampant. This leaves them vulnerable to exploitation by smugglers, traffickers, or fraudulent intermediaries, and often results in loss of critical opportunities for protection and support. Misinformation can drive families into unsafe migration routes, erode trust in legitimate institutions, and contribute to dangerous misunderstandings of legal procedures.

Recognizing these challenges, UNHCR strongly advocates for safeguarding press freedom and actively opposing state-sponsored disinformation, especially when such efforts directly or indirectly target displaced populations. A key priority is to strengthen refugee communication systems—ensuring they are multilingual, reliable, accessible, and grounded in verified information. UNHCR also emphasizes the importance of collaboration with trusted media outlets, civil society organizations, and digital platforms to counteract harmful narratives and promote accurate, ethical reporting on refugee issues. This is especially crucial in conflict zones, where journalists face increased risk and humanitarian access is already limited.

Throughout its mandate, UNHCR maintains a strictly non-political stance rooted in humanitarian principles, focusing on human dignity, safety, and the accurate representation of displaced communities. In this context, truthful reporting and media freedom are not political instruments, but vital tools of protection. In a world increasingly shaped by narratives, misinformation is more than a distortion of facts—it is a threat to life. Ensuring that refugees and asylum seekers are seen, heard, and accurately represented is central to the work of the UNHCR and essential to preserving human rights in an age of growing distortion.



United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women



Veils of Silence: The Global Reckoning of Women's Rights Under the Taliban

Ewan Noronha, *New York Times*

"A society is not destroyed by the earthquake but by the silence that follows it."

So too is the plight of Afghan women today, not solely undone by the Taliban's return, but by the world's quiet resignation.

The fall of Kabul in August 2021 marked more than a geopolitical shift; it signified the unmaking of decades of fragile progress for Afghan women. In the space of days, schools emptied, jobs vanished, and voices once central to civic and intellectual life were confined behind imposed veils. What we now confront is not simply a regional regression of rights, but a brutal demonstration of how quickly the global architecture for women's empowerment can collapse under pressure when propped up only by convenience and conditional support. The Taliban's return to power has triggered a systemic erasure of women from public life, an erasure that is methodical, ideological, and dangerously normalized through international fatigue.

This agenda must be understood not as an isolated tragedy, but as a culmination of historical betrayals. The seeds of the current crisis were sown long before the Taliban's resurgence: in the transactional nature of global diplomacy, in the militarized approaches to nation-building, and in the symbolic inclusion of women in peace talks that seldom centered their lived realities. Afghan women were promised the world, only to be sacrificed at the altar of political expediency. The Doha Agreement, negotiated with glaring gender omissions, exemplified how peace processes can serve as tools of exclusion rather than liberation.

To view the Taliban's regime merely as a domestic aberration is to underestimate the scope of its consequences. The silencing of Afghan women sends shockwaves across the global feminist project. It emboldens patriarchal regimes elsewhere, offering a blueprint for how quickly and thoroughly women can be made invisible when international resolve falters. For the millions of girls watching from conflict zones, refugee camps, or even seemingly stable states, the message is chillingly clear: your rights are negotiable.

The global repercussions of inaction are immense. Not only does this regression set a dangerous precedent for the rollback of women's rights under the guise of cultural or religious authenticity, but it also undermines decades of normative frameworks built through CEDAW, UNSCR 1325, and the SDGs. A world that tolerates the gender apartheid in Afghanistan cannot credibly champion gender equality anywhere. The Taliban's policies are not merely internal governance issues, they are violations of international human rights law and a test of the UN system's moral and political integrity.

And yet, hope persists. In clandestine schools, in whispered defiance, in the encrypted digital networks of Afghan feminists, resistance continues to burn, quiet but unyielding. The question facing this committee is not only how to respond to the Taliban, but how to support and amplify this resistance without instrumentalizing or endangering it.

This agenda challenges us to interrogate the very purpose of our institutions. Are we mere observers of injustice, or active agents against it? To debate this issue without the full weight of its urgency is to participate in the very silence that sustains oppression.

Let it be said: the crisis of women's rights under the Taliban is not only about Afghanistan. It is about the integrity of the global promise made to every woman who dares to imagine freedom. If the United Nations cannot uphold that promise, it risks becoming fluent in the language of equality, but mute in its defense.



United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change



Choked Cities, Complicit Skies: The Air We Breathe and the Crisis We Ignore

Aditya Vikram Goyal, *EurAsian Times*

In the hushed morning smog of Delhi, the gray haze above Lahore, the breathless congestion of Lagos, and the toxic skyline of Mexico City, the air itself has become an enemy. We do not breathe oxygen; we inhale carbon, carcinogens, and political negligence. The air quality and health crisis in major cities is not a mere environmental issue, it is a slow violence, an unspoken epidemic, and a moral failure of global proportions.

Air pollution today is the most insidious public health threat in urban landscapes worldwide. From Jakarta to Johannesburg, it is not the loudest catastrophe, but the most consistent one. The numbers are devastating: 99% of the global population breathes air that exceeds WHO guidelines. Ambient air pollution causes approximately 4.2 million deaths annually. And yet, its invisibility renders it tolerable. We have normalized what should be unlivable.

This crisis is deeply entangled with the history of urbanization and industrialization, rooted in patterns of economic development that were designed without ecological consciousness or equity in mind. The urban poor suffer the worst of the emissions. Postcolonial megacities, often modeled after extractive capitalist templates, have inherited broken infrastructures and suffocating inequalities. Air quality degradation in these cities is not accidental; it is a direct consequence of unregulated growth, fossil fuel dependency, vehicle-centric planning, and political inaction shielded by plausible deniability.

The agenda before UNFCCC is not just about reducing emissions; it is about confronting an existential threat with the urgency it demands. The air quality crisis is intimately tied to the climate crisis. Both are rooted in the same systemic disregard for sustainability and justice. Urban heat islands, methane leaks, black carbon emissions from outdated transit systems, all contribute to a feedback loop of degradation that impacts not just ecosystems, but economies, education, maternal health, and cognitive development.

Inaction here is not passive, it is lethal. If



cities remain neglected in global climate strategy, they will become uninhabitable to the majority of the world's population. The consequences of failure are not distant or abstract; they are immediate and unequal. The elderly woman with asthma in Manila, the child developing lifelong lung disease in Cairo, the construction worker collapsing in São Paulo, all are casualties of a crisis that the world treats as background noise.

The air quality crisis is also a question of climate justice. While the Global North debates carbon credits, the Global South chokes on the cost of development it never authored. There must be a reckoning: clean air is not a luxury, it is a right. Technological solutions exist, but political will lags. Cities must be empowered with climate finance,

data systems, renewable infrastructure, and most importantly, international solidarity.

This committee must rise beyond diplomatic platitudes. The cities are suffocating, and so is the credibility of climate governance if it continues to prioritize treaties over transformation. Addressing the air quality crisis is not just about meeting emissions targets, it is about redefining what we value in urban life: breathability, dignity, and survival.

We are no longer negotiating with emissions, we are negotiating with mortality. To ignore this agenda is to write an obituary for the very cities we claim to protect.

Let the air become a battleground not of resignation, but of radical change.

World Health Organization



The Silent Pandemic: Reckoning with the Global Burden of Non-Communicable Diseases

Misheeta Patel , *The Guardian*

In a world often transfixed by the immediacy of infectious outbreaks, an older, quieter crisis continues to escalate ,uninterrupted, underfunded, and underestimated. Non-communicable diseases (NCDs) such as cardiovascular disorders, cancers, diabetes, and chronic respiratory illnesses now account for over 70% of global deaths. This staggering figure is not merely a statistical reality; it is a reflection of systemic neglect, structural inequities, and the commodification of health. NCDs are not just diseases, they are the symptom of an international development model that privileges economic growth over holistic wellbeing.

Historically, global health architecture was built in response to urgent threats which include plagues, epidemics, and pandemics that demanded rapid mobilization. This reactive approach left chronic conditions on the periphery of health discourse. NCDs were dismissed as “lifestyle diseases,” the burden of the affluent. This framing is not only inaccurate ,it is lethal. Today, over 85% of premature NCD-related deaths occur in low- and middle-income countries. Far from being diseases of excess, they are increasingly diseases of deprivation that are linked to poverty, processed food systems, air pollution, urban stressors, and crumbling primary healthcare infrastructures.

The relevance of this agenda is more urgent than ever. In the post-COVID world, NCDs have emerged as both comorbidities and complications, exacerbated by pandemic-induced disruptions in routine care, diagnostics, and medication access. The resulting syndemic becomes the synergistic interaction between communicable and non-communicable diseases which has intensified health disparities and exposed the fragility of global preparedness. NCDs are not only a health issue; they are a political and economic liability, costing trillions in productivity losses and pushing millions into medical impoverishment each year.

Moreover, the fight against NCDs is entangled in complex geopolitics. Transnational food and beverage corporations continue to shape dietary norms through aggressive marketing, while tobacco and alcohol industries thrive under weak regulation and policy loopholes. Calls for sugar taxes, clear labelling, and advertising restrictions often meet resistance not just from industry, but from governments reluctant to challenge profit in favour of prevention. The Global South, especially, is trapped between the twin burdens of undernutrition and overnutrition ,a paradox fueled by aggressive globalization without adequate health safeguards.

Inaction on NCDs risks locking billions into cycles of chronic illness, economic dependence, and early death. But the consequences extend beyond individuals. Health systems will be overwhelmed, insurance models destabilized, and development goals derailed. We cannot meet SDG 3 “Good Health and Well-Being”,without confronting NCDs as the central threat they are. Yet addressing this agenda requires more than biomedical



intervention. It demands a radical transformation of public health priorities: integrating preventive care into education, urban planning, agriculture, and international trade. It requires confronting vested interests and redesigning healthcare delivery to focus on community resilience, not just clinical outcomes.

This committee must not approach NCDs as an inevitable consequence of modernity, but as a preventable failure of policy and planning. Solutions must be intersectional and culturally rooted. Indigenous food systems, local wellness traditions, grassroots health workers, and youth-led awareness campaigns are not auxiliary ,they are essential.

To delay action is to accept a future where chronic disease becomes the common condition of the global majority. To act is to reclaim health as a universal right, not a market privilege. The world has witnessed what happens when health systems collapse under pressure. Let that be our warning. The time to treat NCDs as the defining global health crisis of our era is not tomorrow, it is now.



India-Bangladesh: Steering Strategic Convergence for Regional Stability and Growth



Selvi Gupta, Middle East Monitor

India and Bangladesh share more than just a 4,096-kilometre land border—the fifth-longest in the world. Their relationship is deeply rooted in shared history, civilizational ties, linguistic affinities, and cultural continuity. From the liberation of Bangladesh in 1971 to present-day collaborations in trade, energy, security, and connectivity, the bilateral relationship has evolved into one of South Asia's most consequential partnerships.

Viewed through a centrist-nationalist lens, the relationship must be examined in light of four critical imperatives: sovereignty, national security, economic benefit, and regional influence. Bangladesh's geographical location—nestled against India's eastern flank—grants it considerable strategic importance. As India pursues its "Neighbourhood First" and "Act East" policies, Dhaka emerges as both a gateway to Southeast Asia and a lynchpin for ensuring regional connectivity and stability.

Economic engagement forms a central pillar of this relationship. Bilateral trade surpassed USD 18 billion in 2022–23, making Bangladesh India's largest trading partner in South Asia. Indian investments in Bangladesh are steadily rising, and flagship infrastructure initiatives like the Maitree Thermal Power Plant, cross-border rail links, and the BBIN (Bangladesh-Bhutan-India-Nepal) connectivity framework reflect the growing convergence of interests. These projects not only spur economic integration but also strengthen India's strategic positioning in the region vis-à-vis external powers, particularly China.

However, economic asymmetries persist. India maintains a substantial trade surplus, and Bangladesh has raised valid concerns about non-tariff barriers and access to Indian markets for its key exports, such as garments and jute products. If left unaddressed, these trade imbalances could strain the economic goodwill that underpins broader diplomatic ties. A recalibrated trade framework that emphasizes reciprocity, promotes joint ventures, and expands concessional access to Indian markets would be in India's long-term interest—not only as an economic gesture, but also as a strategic signal of partnership.

Security cooperation is another cornerstone. Over the years, Bangladesh has emerged as a reliable partner in India's counter-insurgency and counter-terrorism efforts. Dhaka's consistent crackdown on anti-India insurgent groups operating from its territory reflects a shared interest in maintaining peace along the border. As the Indo-Pacific becomes a theatre of strategic contestation, continued

Once refugees arrive in host countries, the impact of disinformation continues to shadow their lives. Xenophobic rhetoric and anti-refugee propaganda are often fueled by misinformation campaigns portraying refugees as economic burdens, criminals, or security threats. These narratives not only misrepresent the truth but actively foster environments of fear, hostility, and exclusion. Refugees—already stripped of home and legal protection—become the targets of discrimination, harassment, and even violence. Their access to basic services, fair employment, and community integration becomes more restricted in societies influenced by these falsehoods.

Media suppression further compounds these challenges. When journalists reporting on refugee issues are censored, harassed, or silenced, the transparency vital to humanitarian protection is severely weakened. Human rights abuses go undocumented, narratives are monopolized by the state, and the global community remains unaware of the scale and urgency of crises. The ability to mobilize international support, raise awareness, and ensure



defence and intelligence collaboration with Dhaka can serve as a bulwark against transnational threats, smuggling networks, and geopolitical incursions by hostile actors.

Nonetheless, sensitive issues such as illegal migration and the implementation of the National Register of Citizens (NRC) in Assam demand cautious navigation. For India, safeguarding demographic balance, internal security, and border integrity is non-negotiable. However, these concerns must be addressed with diplomatic tact, avoiding any narrative that may strain the bilateral ethos or feed into perceptions of exclusion. Any deportation dialogue must be conducted bilaterally, respecting humanitarian considerations and Bangladesh's sovereign stance.

Water sharing, especially of transboundary rivers like the Teesta, also remains unresolved. A fair and forward-looking water-sharing mechanism is vital—not just for Dhaka's agriculture and economy, but for India's strategic objective of fostering trust and regional harmony.

In conclusion, as India aspires to consolidate its position as the regional leader in South Asia and a responsible power in the Indo-Pacific, deepening ties with Bangladesh is not just a diplomatic choice—it is a strategic imperative. The Indian Parliament must steer this relationship with vision and vigilance, promoting reciprocal economic growth, robust security collaboration, and sustainable regional leadership. By doing so, India ensures that it remains the preferred and trusted partner in Dhaka's evolving strategic calculus, firmly anchoring bilateral cooperation in shared prosperity and mutual respect.

International Criminal Court



Stolen Futures: War Crimes and the Weaponization of Childhood in Ukraine

Ushahshi Lenka , Australian Broadcasting Corporation



In the shattered villages and occupied territories of Ukraine, beneath the ruins of schools and hospitals, lies a crime not only against international law ,but against the very future of a nation. The systematic abduction of Ukrainian children and the commission of war crimes amid Russia's ongoing invasion are not collateral tragedies of conflict; they are deliberate tools of war, engineered to erase identities, dismantle resistance, and undermine the sovereignty of a people by targeting its most vulnerable.

The agenda before this committee sits at the convergence of legality and morality, geopolitics and trauma. It demands more than courtroom logic; it demands a confrontation with the darkest impulses of state power in the modern era.

The roots of this crisis are historical and ideological. Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2022 did not occur in a vacuum, it was seeded in centuries of imperial narratives, Soviet legacy, and a geopolitical worldview that denies Ukrainian nationhood. The forcible transfer and Russification of children whether through deportations, forced adoptions, or indoctrination in occupied territories ,is not merely a violation of the Geneva Conventions or the Rome Statute. It is a revival of genocidal practices masked as "humanitarian rescue." It recalls past atrocities where children were severed from their cultures and repackaged as tools for assimilation or propaganda.

What makes this agenda globally urgent is the precedent it threatens to set. If a permanent

member of the UN Security Council can orchestrate the mass abduction of children and walk away diplomatically shielded, then the very foundation of international humanitarian law is at risk. Silence or delay by the global community would normalize child deportation as a weapon of war, endangering vulnerable populations in every future conflict from Myanmar to the Sahel.

Moreover, the ICC's response ,or lack thereof, has profound implications for the legitimacy of the international justice system. The Court's issuance of arrest warrants, including for high-ranking Russian officials, is a landmark gesture. Yet enforcement remains elusive in a world where geopolitical alliances often trump accountability. If justice becomes optional based on power, then impunity becomes policy.

The real-world consequences of inaction are staggering. Without sustained international pressure, thousands of Ukrainian children may grow up severed from their families, their identities rewritten, their trauma unacknowledged. The psychological toll is immeasurable, but so too is the political cost. A generation robbed of its roots cannot contribute to reconciliation or reconstruction. What is at stake is not only justice for past crimes but the possibility of a peaceful future.

At the same time, action must be

strategic, not symbolic. Justice cannot be pursued in isolation from protection. Repatriation efforts, psychological rehabilitation, forensic documentation, and support for local civil society must accompany legal measures. Furthermore, the international community must challenge not only the perpetrators but also the apathy and complicity of states that shield them.

This agenda is not simply about Ukraine. It is about reaffirming the universality of rights in an era of selective outrage. It is about proving that international law is not a relic, but a living shield ,one that can still protect those too young to defend themselves.

In a century that promised "Never Again," the abduction of children as an instrument of war should ignite not only outrage but coordinated, enduring action. The ICC must rise to this moment. Because if we fail to protect the children of Ukraine, we surrender not only to impunity ,but to history repeating itself, more brutal and more forgotten each time.



United Nations Children's Fund



Childhood Under Siege: Confronting Online Exploitation and Cyberbullying in the Digital Age

Adhyayan Routroy, *The Hindu*



coordinated action.

The roots of this crisis lie in the rapid, unregulated expansion of the internet and social media, especially among children and adolescents. Since the early 2000s, digital access has grown exponentially, and with it, so has children's exposure to harm. In many regions, smartphones arrive before comprehensive digital literacy, and connectivity outpaces the development of legal frameworks and child protection infrastructure. What should have been a space for learning and expression has become a

battleground for predators, abusers, and those who exploit the anonymity and reach of the online world.

Online exploitation is not a monolith it includes grooming, trafficking, sexual abuse material distribution, sextortion, and live-streamed abuse. Cyberbullying, on the other hand, eats away at a child's mental and emotional stability, often in ways invisible to parents, teachers, and guardians. The psychological scars can be as severe as physical harm, resulting in anxiety, depression, self-harm, and, in extreme cases, suicide. These forms of abuse transcend geography and social class—they strike at children in both high-income and low-income countries, leaving no society immune.



The world children inhabit today is no longer divided between physical and digital, it is one seamless, connected space. The playground has moved online, and with it, so have the dangers. The rise of online exploitation and cyberbullying represents one of the most pressing child protection crises of our time, unfolding silently behind screens. What was once seen as the domain of entertainment and education has evolved into a terrain where abuse, manipulation, and trauma proliferate unchecked. The UNICEF agenda on protecting children from online exploitation and cyberbullying demands urgent, nuanced, and globally



What makes this issue alarmingly relevant now is the growing presence of children online, particularly post-COVID-19. With education, social life, and even mental health support shifting to digital platforms, children are more vulnerable than ever before. Meanwhile, abusers are increasingly coordinated, operating in networks that thrive on the global reach of the internet, exploiting legal loopholes and technological anonymity. The dark web has become a breeding ground for child sexual abuse content, while mainstream platforms still fail to regulate harmful content adequately.

y. Technology, when harnessed ethically and inclusively, can be a force for protection, education, and healing. UNICEF and its partners can play a leading role in advocating for stronger legal frameworks, mandating child-centric digital design, expanding access to psychological support, and demanding greater accountability from online platforms. Crucially, child participation must be central in shaping policies—they are the most affected, and their voices must no longer be ignored.

This is not just about protecting children from harm, it is about restoring their right to grow, to explore, to learn, and to dream freely in a world that spans both offline and online realms. The digital age cannot become a lost age for childhood. The time to act is not later, it is now.

International Press Corps



The Silent Pandemic: Reckoning with the Global Burden of Non-Communicable Diseases

Misheeta Patel , *The Guardian*



America has solidified its reputation as the world's top arms exporter; US arms sales abroad have reached all-time highs. Mainstream media frequently point out that by a wide margin, the US leads, exporting advanced weapons to NATO allies, Asian friends, and straight into trouble spots such as Ukraine. The US government brokered \$81 billion worth of arms sales directly in 2023 alone, a 56% increase from last year. This hegemony has serious ethical implications. The readiness of the US to arm allies and unstable areas usually places profit and strategic interests above human rights.

The US Second Amendment that guarantees the right to bear arms is not only a domestic phenomenon. The US model of extensive civilian gun possession is most frequently brought up by pro-gun lobbies around the world, and it is extremely hard to regulate guns and curb violence. That the US has not been able to enact tougher gun control legislation sends a clear message to the world that individual rights as interpreted using the lens of the Second Amendment tend to gain the upper hand over shared security and human rights.

In regions long plagued by violence and weak governance, availability of arms, both legal and illegal, fuels cycles of conflict, displacement, and repression. Sophisticated weaponry is employed to crush opposition and minority rights; hence it's too well known in Tibet, where government security forces are adequately weaponized and enjoy impunity.

The proliferation of weapons has more profound implications for international security and human rights. Say, the existence of advanced weapons increases the threat of state repression of civilians, intrastate conflict, and suppression of dissidents. Authoritarian states use weapons imports to entrench power and quash opposition, while war zones witness prolonged violence and humanitarian crises.

International arms trade destabilizes international law and renders it more difficult to protect vulnerable populations. Transnational opaqueness and lack of accountability in the arms

arms trade render it impossible to hold states and corporations liable for human rights abuses.

World arms sales are record highs, with the war in Ukraine being among the major drivers. US arms exports overseas reached a record \$238 billion in 2023, driven by purchases predominantly to countries within Europe and Ukraine. Poland, Germany, and the Czech Republic have bought billions of dollars' worth of US military hardware, including fighter aircraft, missile defense systems, and tanks.

Ukraine itself has been prioritized. Western nations have provided over \$250 billion in military, humanitarian, and economic assistance to Ukraine since the Russian invasion started in February 2022. The US has shipped \$69 billion in military aid to Ukraine alone from 2022 to 2024, the highest contributor. This gigantic consignment of weapons has reoriented the military balances of Europe and deepened its reliance on US suppliers.

To sum everything up, the global arms trade, spearheaded by America and driven by the ideological influence of the US Second Amendment, has far-reaching implications on peace, security, and human rights. It perpetuates insecurity, is anathema to human rights, and diverts resources from social development.



CROSSHAIRS AND CONTEXT



Disarmament and International Security Committee



The girl in the red scarf

“Saina Mishra reporting from United Nations General Assembly – Disarmament and International Security Committee (UNGA-DISEC)”

She came of age in a nameless town — at least no longer. The maps ceased to map it after the initial missile landed. Later on, there was only a haze of dust, sirens, and quiet. The kind of quiet that sounded like prayer no one lingered long enough to complete.

Her mother had once handed her a red scarf. It was never intended to be pretty — it was intended to signify something. “Red represents life,” her mother had explained, settling it carefully around her neck. “And love. But warning. And war.” The girl hadn’t really gotten it then, but she would learn those meanings all too soon.

She listened every morning for sounds that weren’t hers. One boom - the neighbor’s house. Two - the village well. By the third,

she had stopped counting. Silence was her language. She did not speak much, but she remembered everything.

She ran frequently. From bombs, from borders, from the kind of sorrow that lacks form but rests heavily on your chest. She navigated checkpoints with the scarf hidden away, ever near, never visible. It was her sole legacy — and her protection.

One day, a soldier stopped her. He asked if she was a fighter. She shook her head. He asked again. She looked him in the eye and said, “No. I’m a witness.” He let her pass, but took the scarf. “Red is dangerous,” he muttered.

Years went by. The war did not end in peace — only exhaustion. Silence fell over the air, but sorrow remained. New buildings arose, but graves did not budge.

She came back to her town, scarfless — but not empty-handed. In the middle of the

square, on a wall burned clean by years of silence, she painted a mural. A woman running. A scarlet scarf fluttering behind like fire. Below it, she inscribed:

“Some weapons kill the body. Others kill the memory.”

They halted. Some wept. Some couldn’t bear to look.

**But her message lingered.
And in that mural,
the scarf - and the girl -
had come home.**



Trigger-Happy Tyranny: How the Second Amendment Arms the World's Bloodiest Conflicts

“Reyansh Sharma reporting from Disarmament and International Security Committee (UNGA-DISEC)”

As global conflicts intensify and technological advancements redefine warfare, the Disarmament and International Security Committee finds itself at the forefront of some of the most urgent debates in international diplomacy. Charged with the complex task of negotiating arms control, reducing weapons proliferation, and promoting global security, the work has never been more critical or more contested.

The ongoing debate within the international community concerns how this constitutional right translates into global consequences, fostering arms proliferation, impacting conflict zones, and complicating diplomatic efforts to establish arms control.

The delegate from the United States underscored that the Second Amendment is a fundamental safeguard of personal liberty, deeply embedded in the nation’s identity. “The right to bear arms is not simply a domestic right, it symbolizes freedom and responsibility that are pillars of American democracy,” the delegate stated. The

constitutional guarantee protects citizens’ ability to defend themselves, a principle that the delegate asserted resonates with democratic values worldwide. Beyond symbolism, the delegate emphasized that U.S. arms exports serve legitimate purposes in supporting allied nations’ defence capabilities and contributing to global stability.

“Our arms trade is governed by strict export controls and oversight,” the delegate explained. “We comply with international agreements such as the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) to ensure our weapons do not end up in the wrong hands and is there for the motive of defence.”

In contrast, the delegate representing Brazil painted a starkly different picture, framing the Second Amendment as a root cause of global instability. “What began as a domestic constitutional right has become an export of violence and instability,” the delegate argued and also stated that the “ATT is a moral failure”.

Furthermore, the delegate pointed out the moral vacuum created when constitutional freedom and capitalist profit motives

intertwine unchecked. The delegate appealed to the international community to pressure the U.S. to reconsider the broader consequences of its gun culture beyond its borders.

Conclusively, the journalist of Phayul analyses that, only by balancing constitutional rights with robust global responsibility can the world move toward reducing the devastating impact of the arms trade.

The time has come for the U.S. and its partners to forge a path that safeguards liberty while promoting lasting international security.



World Health Organization



The girl in the red scarf



“Koyena Ganguly reporting from World Health Organisation(WHO)”

In a world where we panic at the sound of the word “pandemic,” it is strange how calm we are about non-communicable diseases (NCDs) even though they kill 41 million people every year, which is 7 out of every 10 deaths all round the world. Diseases like heart attacks, diabetes, cancer, strokes, and chronic respiratory illnesses are no longer problems just for the elderly or the rich. They affect young people, poor families, and a country in its entirety. Yet somehow, they remain under funded, under discussed, and underestimated. Some countries are doing very well at home, but remain silent when it comes to global cooperation.

Take Switzerland, for instance. It has a strong healthcare system and is home to some of the biggest pharmaceutical companies in the world. But those same companies sell life-saving NCD pharmaceutical products at prices that poor countries can’t afford. It is important for people of the world to know about it and even get the aid when required. Is Switzerland really doing enough to make treatment accessible, or is it simply protecting its profits out of these?

Then there’s Iceland, one of the healthiest nations on earth. They have good food policies, strong mental health programs, and excellent public healthcare. But they’re a quiet player in global NCD conversations. If Iceland has a way to prevent the NCDs, why isn’t it sharing it more loudly on the world stage? It could help millions, we never know.

On the other hand, Nigeria and Kenya faces a very different challenge. With both infectious and non-communicable diseases rising, Kenya’s health system is stretched thin. We questioned the Kenyan delegate about access to cancer treatment and basic screenings in rural areas. The answer? Progress is slow, and foreign aid still focuses more on diseases like HIV or malaria — even though NCDs are silently becoming the country’s biggest killers. They accepted their defeat and are trying to work towards the betterment of the country.

This isn’t just Kenya’s issue. Most low- and middle-income countries are in the same boat of fighting yesterday’s diseases with current budgets, while tomorrow’s crisis grows in silence.

NCDs are not just about bad diets or lack of

exercise. They are also linked to poverty, inequality, corporate marketing, urban stress, and weak public policies. Junk food and sugary drinks are marketed with good strategies to children in developing countries. Tobacco companies target poor populations with cheaper products. And when diseases finally appear, the cost of treatment throws families into debt.

While world leaders gather and speak about progress, millions silently suffer, unable to afford insulin, inhalers, or chemotherapy.

It’s time to make non-communicable diseases a top priority in every national and international health agenda. We need prevention over cure. Healthy lifestyle campaigns must be made effective and widespread — not just posters or walkathons, but real access to clean food, parks, fitness programs, and mental health care.

Rich countries must do more. Nations like Switzerland and Iceland must fund NCD responses globally and share best practices to help the suffering countries.

Affordable medicines must become a right. Whether it’s insulin or blood pressure tablets, no one should die because of a price tag soaring as high as eagles in the sky.

Youth voices must rise. Because NCDs are starting from the youth of the country, unhealthy habits in childhood turn into deadly diseases in adulthood. Schools and universities must teach prevention early.

To conclude, I would like to say that non-communicable diseases don’t spread from person to person but their effects spread through generations. If we stay silent any longer, we will find ourselves treating symptoms when we should have tackled the cause.

The time to act was yesterday. The next best time is today. Else suffering might follow.



VOX VERITAS



United Nations General Assembly - Disarmament and International Security Committee



Bullets, Borders, and the Boundaries of Freedom: The Global Fallout of America's Gun Creed *Reyansh Sharma reporting for Disarmament and International Security Committee*

In a stately chamber pulsating with diplomatic tension, the recent press conference following the Global Arms Regulation Summit unfolded with rehearsed courtesy and uncomfortable undercurrents. The agenda?

A dual-headed dilemma: the international arms trade's human toll and the haunting reach of the United States' Second Amendment.

What emerged was not just policy posturing, but a performance of contradictions. Behind every carefully chosen phrase lay truths both spoken and avoided. As one observer quipped in hushed tones: "It's not about who holds the guns—but who gets to sell them, justify them, and absolve themselves of the consequences."

As delegates filtered in, one sensed the weight of moral theatre. The U.S. delegate, fielding the first question, was confronted with a paradox: how can a nation that positions itself as a champion of global peace and arms control also remain the world's largest arms exporter and fiercely defend its Second Amendment, allowing near-unrestricted civilian gun ownership?

"We export arms to secure our allies, to deter aggression, and to maintain global stability," the delegate stated flatly. On domestic gun rights, the delegate added, "The Second Amendment is not about proliferation—it's about protection"

The tone was calm, but the evasion was clear. The delegate did not engage with the deeper issue: how these dual policies, military exports abroad, gun culture at home might together erode the very stability the U.S. claims to uphold.

The question, though diplomatically phrased, had sharp edges. It accused the U.S. of exporting more than just weapons it accused it of exporting a culture of violence. Yet, instead of reflection, the response pivoted: from justification to vague moral clarity. There was no data, no concession, no reckoning.

Russia's representative, never one to miss a geopolitical opportunity, seized the moment. "At least we don't arm rebels," said, with a



smirk. "We sell only to governments." The veneer of responsibility cracked slightly as the room bristled. Russia's arms have long made their way to conflict zones across Africa and Eastern Europe directly or by proxy. But the delegate dismissed any follow-up, instead redirecting blame toward NATO and the United States for "prolonging wars under the guise of peacekeeping."

France, when questioned on its lucrative arms trade with authoritarian regimes, cited its "ministerial oversight body," suggesting bureaucracy as a shield for ethics. "We assess every sale for compliance with international obligations," the delegate insisted. But when pressed on the moral ambiguity of profit-driven warfare, he grew defensive, adding, "We strike a careful balance between economic need and ethical duty." The balance, it seemed, tilts quietly toward profit.

Saudi Arabia, faced with criticism for its role in Yemen, leaned heavily into the victim narrative. "The war was not our choice," the delegate intoned. "We will not apologize for defending our borders." There was no mention of the humanitarian catastrophe in Yemen, no acknowledgment of civilian casualties or regional destabilization.

From this correspondent's vantage, the briefing was less a dialogue and more a diplomatic masquerade. There was posturing, but little introspection. The summit, meant to address the spiraling global arms trade, offered little in terms of transformative commitment. Instead, it affirmed an old truth: power protects itself.

What was said was polished. What was meant was hedged. And what was left unsaid continues to arm the world one silent shipment at a time.



ECHOES OF EMINENCE



Interview

Tarun Tapan Bhuyan: Sir, it's an honour to have you here on the occasion of SAI International Model United Nations as our chief guest. My question to you on this occasion would be: What do you think are the roles that students today play in shaping global diplomacy?

Deputy CM: See, these roles of students today have changed. When we went to school, we didn't have the kind of opportunities which you students have today — and not only nation-building. Not only does school teach you, build your careers, but you are the future of this nation, which is going to take and drive the world forward. I think you people have a great opportunity of playing your role, which has been given to you by late Dr. Bijaya Sahoo. He was a very dear friend. We lost him a bit too early.

Tarun Tapan Bhuyan: Yeah. Sir, I remember when I met you last year at the Odisha Literary Festival, you said one thing which really stuck with me: "It's not leadership that defines a person, but the values that define a person." As you said, Chairman sir was a dear friend to you, and he was a guiding light to all of us. What do you think are the qualities that made him the leader he was, and how can we as students inculcate that today?

Deputy CM: I think he lived his childhood through the eyes of the students — that he got to join this institute. I mean, I always believe in one philosophy and theory: "If I was given the opportunity, I would always want to go back to my childhood." There's a famous saying which I quote wherever I go: "Sometimes I wish I were a child again, for skinned knees are easier to fix than broken dreams," because once the dream breaks, you can't rejoin it from where it broke. But if you have a skinned knee, you can fix the knee.

Tarun Tapan Bhuyan: That's quite inspiring. Sir, my last question to you is — Paulo Coelho in *The Alchemist* said, "If you want something enough, the universe conspires to give it to you." Today's students tend to struggle with their path in life. What would be your message to all those who are trying to make their mark on the world?

Deputy CM: I would like to only suggest to them that don't give up. In the words of Sir Winston Churchill: "Never, never, never give up." Strive to achieve what you have set out for, and you will achieve your goal in life.

Tarun Tapan Bhuyan: Sir, this has been an honour. Thank you so much.



Shri Kanak Vardhan Singh Deo

Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister
Government of Odisha



Interview

Tarun Tapan Bhuyan: Ma'am, you have always been a beacon of inspiration for all our SAI Annuals and your ideal of leadership for us all. Today, as we convene for the 13th edition of SAI Annual, how do you think this event has helped to manifest the holistic vision that our beloved Founder-Chairman Sir gave to all of us?

Dr. Silpi Sahoo: This flagship event of SAI Model United Nations has brought in global values, international national delegates from across the country and outside the country. As the young generation, you all deliberate, discuss the global issues, you all discuss all these issues and then you come out with the resolutions which actually will help in the empowerment of the students of different schools. This helps to create global leaders and diplomats who will shape the world. This was the vision of our Founder-Chairman sir who has actually brought in the global vision and the holistic global education essential to achieve his vision.

Sara Anwita: Ma'am, you and Chairman Sir have always told us that success is not merely measured by just grades or academics, but also by our values. What are some of the values that guide you and how can they help our students to become future leaders?

Dr. Silpi Sahoo: Success is not everything for you to become a global leader. So you need to be humble, you need to be, you need to respect the elders, that humility has to be there in the way you carry yourself, the way you talk to others, the way you discuss with others, be it the younger generation, be it the students younger to you or be it someone elder. But you should have human values of humility and most importantly of empathy, because empathy is actually going to take you ahead for the rest of your life, you have to build that empathy in yourself then only you'll be able to become a successful leader.

Tarun Tapan Bhuyan: We've talked about empathy and that is such an important value and today we have this year, we're all very proud to have a record number of delegates in SAIMUN, 23 countries. To all of our visiting delegates both nationally and internationally, what is your message and what do you think is their takeaway from Saimun?

Dr. Silpi Sahoo: The biggest takeaway from any model United Nations and especially from SAI Model United Nations is, you need to love your country, you need to be proud of your country and you need to take your country forward and ahead because you should feel proud of yourself that you are representing your country. That is what I want to tell all the international delegates.

Sara Anwita: Ma'am lastly, what do you think is the power of education in 2025 in resolving global issues and making future leaders?

Dr. Silpi Sahoo: The power of education helps you to empower yourself, you have to educate yourself and you have to see that you build in those human values in yourself because you are the future generation of the world. The youth is going to rule the country, to rule the world in another 10 years of time. So you have, you should have that humility in yourself because the more humble you are, the more you succeed in your life.



Dr. Silpi Sahoo

Chairperson
SAI International Education Group



Interview

Sara Anwita: Sir, after the thirteenth edition of SAIMUN, what is your message to the visiting delegates of the visiting countries?

Shri Nilkantha Panigrahi: Thank you Sara and I am so delighted to see such a big number of delegates and that there are twenty-three countries. SAIMUN is actually a big platform, the delegates are here debate, deliberate and to make impactful resolutions I always give a message to them that think, definitely you have to give your own opinion but at the same time they should also respect the humanitarian ground and also the emotional factor and empathetic factor whenever they are discussing.

Sara Anwita: Sir, you mentioned empathy. Empathy is one of the guiding values of SAI. How do you think empathy is imbibed in every SAIonner today?

Shri Nilkantha Panigrahi: Our beloved Founder-Chairman and our Chairperson ma'am, have always advocated that empathetic part should be there in every human being and I know that my SAIONEERS always carry that part and when my SAIONEERS actually reach out to the people and feel the pain around the world, I hope that they tune in the empathy within themselves and offer the best help they can. Hence empathy is one of the guiding ethos of SAI and every SAIONEER will definitely imbibe this essence of SAI and this will help them to prosper and grow.

Sara Anwita: Sir, SAI is known for shaping future global leaders and diplomats. How do you think SAIMUN will help shape their experience and teach them some principles that will help them to achieve their goals?

Shri Nilkantha Panigrahi: My SAIONEERS are always representing not just the school, but also the community on a global platform. Whenever they graduate from here, they carry forward the values of the school, the society, and the nation, spreading them across the world. MUN is one of the key platforms through which they get the opportunity to engage with people from all around the globe. These interactions are rich, diverse, and intellectually stimulating. When I speak to the Executive Board members, they consistently tell me that the level of discussion and deliberation at SAIMUN is truly international. It gives me immense pride to see our SAIONNERS engaging in such high-caliber conversations and making their mark globally.

Sara Anwita: Lastly, as you've mentioned, we've had a record number of 23 countries visiting and participating this year. What would be your message to those international delegates?

Shri Nilkantha Panigrahi: This growing international participation is a result of the global presence of our SAIONNERS. Wherever they go, they represent the spirit and values of SAI International. Their excellence and commitment have created a ripple effect, drawing interest from around the world and that's why so many countries are now eager to be part of SAIMUN. This, in turn, adds tremendous value to the conference and to our institution as a whole.

Secondly, when international delegates join the committees and bring their lived experiences to the table, the discussions become significantly more authentic and impactful. For example, a delegate from India discussing issues related to Israel may offer a well-researched perspective, but when an Israeli delegate shares their firsthand understanding of the situation, it brings a whole new depth to the debate. This is true for delegates from any country speaking on issues that directly affect them.

That is what makes SAIMUN 2025 such a powerful platform, it facilitates real, meaningful conversations that transcend borders. With such diversity and depth in participation, I am confident that the discussions, deliberations, and resolutions this year will be truly exceptional.



Shri Nilkantha Panigrahi

Director Academics & Sr. Principal
SAI International Education Group



Interview

Sara Anwita: How do you think SAIMUN reflects the deeper educational ethos of SAI—that learning is not just about grades, but about growing as thinkers, leaders, and global citizens?

Shri Amitabh Agnihotri: When the school was envisioned by our Late Founder-Chairman and mentor Dr. Bijaya Kumar Sahoo, one thing was clear, we wanted to educate children to make India a better place to be in. Once you look at the demographic advantage that India has - the most populous country in the world, the third largest economy, the third best army and so many technocrats, engineers and doctors. So SAI International by default has to play a major role in that success story. In less than two decades, our SAIONEERS have become trailblazers. We are churning out so many CAs, doctors and lawyers. SAIMUN adds another dimension to it. It's a great opportunity to learn to contribute to the geopolitics of the world and here they also learn how to lead.

Sara Anwita: Following up, as you mention SAIMUN contributes to youth diplomacy. Today's delegates will become tomorrow's lawmakers, diplomats and leaders. How does SAIMUN ensure that in preparing them for power, it also instills the wisdom, empathy, and responsibility needed to wield it meaningfully?

Shri Amitabh Agnihotri: When we are grooming children for these kinds of roles, the management of the school is envisioning these children to be ambassadors, civil servants and ministers tomorrow. Once the clarity is there as to where we are heading, it only makes it easier to then pave the way for the youth and this is where SAIMUN becomes essential. When our late Chairman sir envisioned SAIMUN, he saw it as an integral part of the holistic education that SAI offers. So, it all comes together very naturally. SAIMUN is brought together by student leaders like yourself. The broad parameters have already been set, year after year it is becoming bigger and better. That is how leadership is cultivated and inculcated in the children at SAI.

Sara Anwita: In a world obsessed with test scores and STEM, how does an experience like SAIMUN reaffirm the value of emotional intelligence, global awareness, and cultural empathy?

Shri Amitabh Agnihotri: With the advent of things like AI and robotics, we have tried to inculcate these things to the curriculum at SAI and we are also having a school average of 90-91 percent. So we need to do something extra, and this is the leadership ecosystem that is there in the school like SAIMUN, SAITED, UNWIND. These are all different ways of inculcating that spirit of leadership in our students and making them emotionally, spiritually strong to actually lead in real life scenarios. So SAIMUN is not just about coming and having a good time, it's about coming and understanding the shifts in the global scenario and the emerging geopolitics and to understand the intricacies of wars, how people try to diffuse situations and try to fend for themselves. Through your research for SAIMUN, you are naturally prepared for leadership in the future.

Sara Anwita: Lastly, As SAIMUN enters its 13th edition, do you ever look back at its early years and reflect on how far it has come? What thoughts or emotions surface when you revisit that journey?

Shri Amitabh Agnihotri: I have been a part of SAIMUN since the last seven years and this is my eighth year. I have seen it become bigger, I have seen it become better, one cannot help but think about Chairman Sir and how far we have come. But, the good thing is all of you have been able to carry the baton forward and keep the flag flying high. Every year, more and more countries join us, more delegates participate, there is a greater transparency in the operations and there are a lot of relevant issues that are being discussed and debated. As I said, it's not about coming and having a good time, it's about fierce competition and making a headway into what the future holds. So SAIMUN has been able to hold the expectations of all concerned and it's only going to get better from here.



Shri Amitabh Agnihotri

Associate Director & Headmaster -
SAI International Residential School



THE FACES OF **INFLUENCE**

The Leaders of SAIMUN 2025...





"If liberty means anything at all, it means the right to tell people what they do not want to hear."

- George Orwell, Animal Farm



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